

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.

No. 355.—Vol. 14.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1862.

PRICE 2½D.—STAMPED 3½D.

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE Government of the Federal States of North America having very wisely consented to give up Messrs. Mason and Slidell *when and where* we may wish, the war furore here has become inopportune and inappropriate, and the excitement on the subject in America is, we learn by the last advices, fast dying out. Indeed, according to the last accounts, it is highly necessary that our Transatlantic brethren should turn their attention to matters more practical than menaces against England, at some future period, for having, in a dignified, firm, but moderate manner, remonstrated against an act which was a flagrant violation of international law and an insult to our national flag. For unless some new sources of capital have ere this been discovered, some fresh supplies wrung by ingenious taxation from property and income, insolvency and bankruptcy would seem to brood like a hideous nightmare over the cities of the North. The majority of the banks have stopped specie payment, which is an elegant and euphemistic phrase for describing the swift approach of impecuniosity; and impecuniosity in any commercial partnership, but more especially in a bank, is an incurable and fatal disease, speedily to be followed by dissolution. A nation could no more live financially than it could physically on paper. It now, therefore, remains to be seen what patriotism there is among the citizens of the Northern Republic. The hour of trial and of proof has come. Will they endure a heavy direct taxation, which is the only thing which can carry them with moderate success through a part of their struggle with the South?

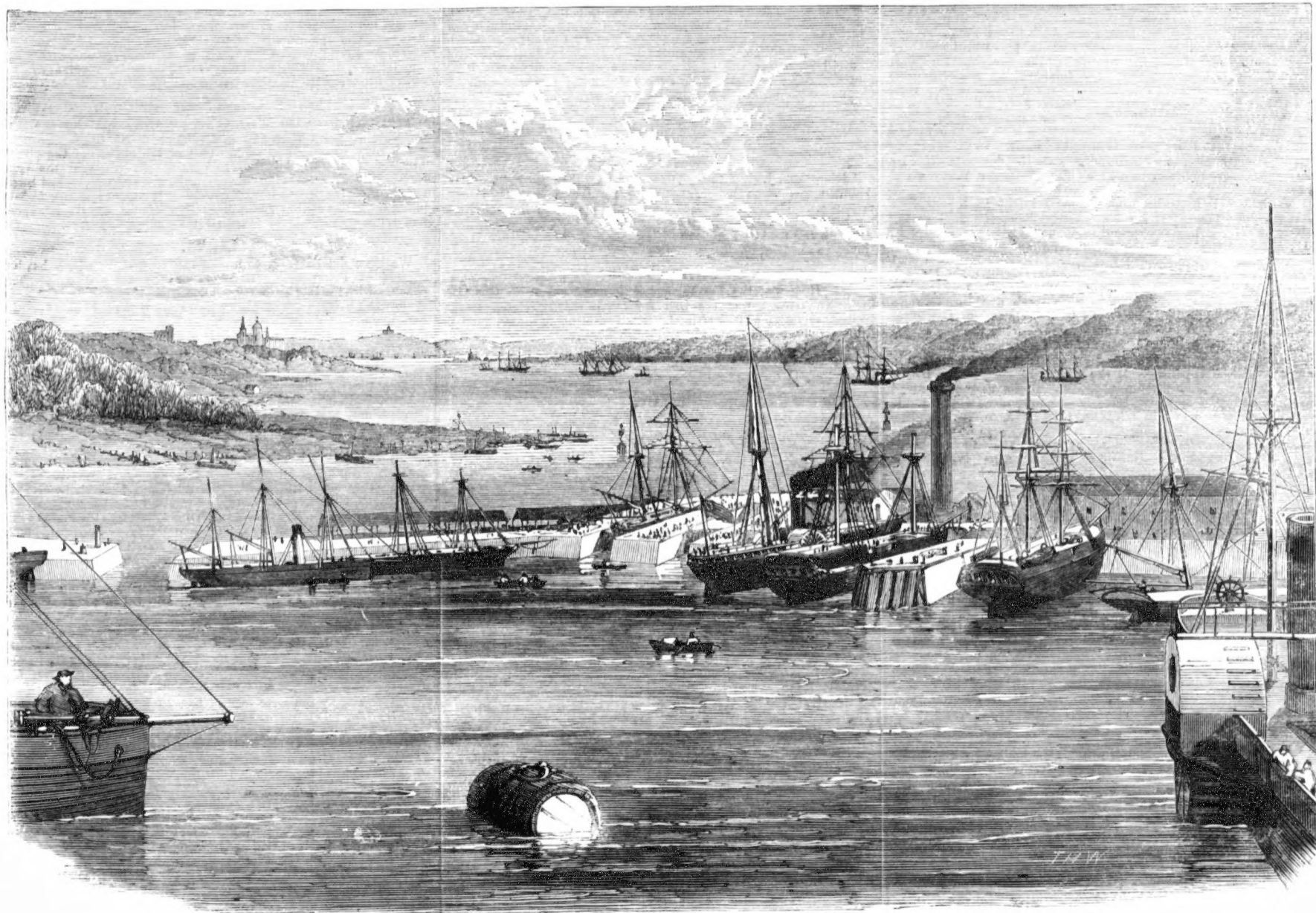
The tone of the New York papers is far less offensive towards England than it has hitherto been. Their editors may have, perhaps, by this time discovered what an awful calamity they have escaped in not having driven their Government into a war with England. In the present state of Northern finance, nothing but absolute insanity could have urged the Federal Government into a contest with so wealthy a power as ours. Their boasting and threatening must have been the frenzy of despair, or so insincere and unmeaning that for the future we

shall know that the louder they swagger the more pacific their real intentions are. It is certainly to be deeply lamented that the general behaviour of the North in its relations to us has been such as to cause a vast deal of sympathy with the cause of the South, and this not from those whose interests are bound up with the South, and seriously injured by the stoppage of the supplies of cotton, in consequence of the blockade of the ports of the South. A clever contemporary—the *Scotsman*—tells us, in a paragraph significantly quoted in the *Times* of Wednesday last, that another American difficulty will very shortly arise, and one which will be more difficult to deal with than the affair of the Trent. There is a growing feeling in England, we regret to say, if not in favour of the South, at any rate against the North. The North is prosecuting the civil war in a spirit of relentless hate and ferocity. The attempted destruction of the harbour of Charleston by sinking stone-laden ships has caused a feeling of intense disgust in London and Paris—indeed, wherever, in civilised lands, the act has been mentioned. Had such a deed been perpetrated by an old European despotism, Enlightenment would have talked in a vaunting strain about the barbarities of autocratic rule, but this has happened in the free and great Republic, and in a civil war—not against an inveterate foe, an alien race, a dangerous rival—but in a conflict where members of the same family are armed against each other. The Emperor of the French, it is said, is again pressing the English Cabinet to recognise the Confederate States as having a *de facto* Government, and to cease to regard the blockade of the Southern ports by the North as really effective. It is to be hoped that our Government will not yield to such pressure. Strict neutrality is what we professed as our policy from the first, and this would surely be a gross violation of it. The struggle in America is a wicked, wasteful, and unnatural war; but we have no right to interfere, unless to procure peace between the parties by arbitration and compromise. It is questionable if we would be justified in recognising the Southerners as a government in the midst of a struggle in which by “an armed insurrection” they are

endeavouring to make themselves a government; but, seeing that we have taken our position, and declared that we mean to remain neutral, it would be unwise in the extreme were we to depart from the course we have laid down for ourselves in this matter.

The King of Prussia opened the Legislative Chambers at Berlin on the 14th of this month. He made a pathetic allusion to the lamented death of the late Prince Consort of England. A meeting of the British residents has been called at the British Consulate, New York, to express condolence with her Majesty on her late bereavement. The meeting held in the City for the purpose of considering the propriety of erecting a lasting memorial to the Prince's memory was presided over by the Lord Mayor, attended by a large assemblage of persons of wealth and station, and was altogether highly successful.

Mr. Gladstone's speech at Leith will be read with interest and sympathy by all who are desirous of maintaining peace at least with our Transatlantic brethren, if they will not allow us to remain on terms of cordial amity and goodwill with them as well. The Chancellor of the Exchequer is not disposed to “inquire too curiously” into all that may have been said and done by the Americans towards ourselves; and while we are willing to homologate this sentiment, we are at the same time glad to observe that the fallacies and mystifications of some portions of Mr. Seward's despatch in answer to our demand for reparation are not to go unchallenged. It will be seen by the extract we publish from Earl Russell's last letter to Lord Lyons that these points are to receive the immediate attention of the Government, and we doubt not that an answer to Mr. Seward's assumptions, as complete as the whole course of our dealings on the Trent affair have been frank, courteous, and forbearing, will be given. Mr. Seward cannot be allowed to assume without contradiction, as he does assume in the despatch in question, that Ambassadors are contraband of war and liable to seizure under all circumstances; that a vessel proceeding from one neutral port to another neutral port, in the pursuit of lawful purposes, and without any intention of specially serving the interests of either belligerent,



NETLEY HOSPITAL.

OSBORNE.

THE DAUNTLESS. THE MOULTAN. THE NASHVILLE IN DOCK. THE TUSCARORA.

BIRDS-EYE VIEW OF THE TIDAL DOCKS, SOUTHAMPTON, SHOWING THE RELATIVE POSITIONS OF THE NASHVILLE AND THE TUSCARORA.—(FROM A SKETCH BY F. BRANSON.)

and that Captain Wilks in not seizing the Trent as well as the four passengers taken from her only erred from so much generosity and forbearance. Such propositions, if admitted, would subvert all the rights of neutrals; and when, in addition to this, we have the assurance of Mr. Seward that, if he had considered Messrs. Mason and Slidell of sufficient importance, he would have kept them whether their capture had been legal or not, it becomes absolutely necessary that a decided protest should be entered against such doctrines, and that, without seeking unnecessarily to revive an old quarrel, an endeavour should at least be made to place the whole question of neutral and belligerent rights on a distinct, definite, and unmistakable basis. This, we trust, Earl Russell will endeavour to do; and, to prevent misconception in the future, we hope he will unreservedly declare the policy Great Britain is henceforth disposed to pursue herself in such matters.

#### THE FEDERAL AND CONFEDERATE STEAMERS AT SOUTHAMPTON.

We mentioned in our last Number that the Federal war-steamer *Tuscarora*, Captain Craven, had arrived in the Southampton water, an event which has caused considerable excitement there, which was to some extent increased on the morning of the 10th on its becoming known that several armed men were found the previous night between the west and middle docks close to the bows of the Confederate steamer *Nashville*. The party consisted of two officers, with their side arms, and three men with dark lanterns, signal lights, &c. On their being requested to state to what ship they belonged and their authority for being there, one of the officers replied, "We belong to the *Tuscarora*, and we are here on duty by order of our captain. We are here to watch the *Nashville*, and, if she attempts to get under way, to signal the *Tuscarora*." They were requested by the superintendent of the docks to leave immediately, and he informed them that the docks were the private property of individuals; that they had no right to be there for other than commercial purposes, and that they would not be allowed to be stationed in the docks for the purpose of watching the *Nashville* or any other vessel. The officers of the *Tuscarora* then communicated with Captain Britton, the United States' Consul, who expressed an opinion that the *Tuscarora's* people had a right to be on the dock premises so long as they behaved in a proper manner. To this the superintendent of the docks declined to assent, and repeated to Captain Britton the determination to prevent a repetition of such conduct on the part of the *Tuscarora's* crew. The United States' Consul finding the dock authorities would not allow the men to be on their premises for the purpose of watching the *Nashville*, they ultimately embarked for their ship, which was anchored at the entrance of the Itchen Creek, about a mile from the dock mouth. Public curiosity received a fresh impetus on Monday morning, when it became known that at daybreak the Federal sloop *Tuscarora* had left her moorings at the mouth of the Itchen, and was not to be seen. But in the afternoon she returned to her old berth at the Itchen Creek. It is believed that the mysterious movement of the *Tuscarora* in leaving her moorings was a ruse to prevent the *Nashville* from getting under way for twenty-four hours, since, the former having left, the latter could not start for a day and a night afterwards. It is understood that the orders of the *Tuscarora* are never to lose sight of the *Nashville* for a longer period than is absolutely necessary; to blockade her in Southampton, and if she once leaves to chase her as long as she is at sea.

The Government have taken steps to prevent any breach of international law or the violation of the neutrality of a British port being committed. Captain Craven, the commander of the *Tuscarora*, has been officially informed that he will not be allowed to make any hostile movement; that the neutrality of the port will be strictly enforced, and that should the *Nashville* take her departure first the *Tuscarora* will not be permitted to leave her mooring until twenty-four hours afterwards. Captain Craven has, it is said, intimated to Captain Patey, the Admiralty agent here, his intentions to abide by these orders of the Government; and the same instructions have been communicated to Captain Pegram with regard to the *Nashville*, who has likewise assented to the same. To prevent any attempt on the part of the *Tuscarora* to evade the demands made by the Government, the *Dawn* less, which lies off Netley Abbey, about three miles lower down the river, has been fully manned and equipped. She has orders to keep steam up, and is brought to by a spring cable, ready to prevent any act of aggression on the part of the Federal vessel. It is also arranged that, should necessity require it, the *Dauntless* can signal the *Warrior*, which vessel is lying off Osborne with her fires banked up. Her Majesty's despatch-boat *Argus*, Captain Wincerft, came up from Portsmouth on Monday evening, and anchored off the entrance to the docks. A guard was sent ashore from her, with orders to keep watch at the dock gates till midnight, when they were relieved by men from the *Dauntless* frigate. Relays have also been kept on duty during the day at the entrance gates and in different parts of the docks.

It is said that double pay has been offered to induce seamen to ship on board the *Nashville*. If she could get twenty-four hours' start of her Federal rival she would get out of the British Channel before the Federal ship could leave Southampton. The *Nashville* has coal enough on board to carry her across the Atlantic, and as she lightened she would steam about fifteen knots an hour, so that it would be impossible for the *Tuscarora*, which is said to be a much slower vessel, to catch her. Should such, however, happen to be the case, Captain Pegram has declared that sooner than be captured he would run the *Nashville* right into the *Tuscarora*, at the risk of sinking both ships and of both crews perishing. A later report is to the effect that the *Nashville* has been disposed of to an English firm, by which she will be employed in her former capacity of a purely commercial vessel. It is supposed that the officers and crew have arranged to join some other ship bearing the Southern flag now in Europe.

A rumour having obtained currency that the *Nashville* had telegraphed to Cadiz for the *Sumter* to come to her assistance, the utmost curiosity existed as to what might be the result of such a course. The *Sumter* was a passenger-ship, was not built for fighting, and is nothing like so strong as the *Tuscarora*, though she is said to carry one or two more guns. But such is the known daring character and skill of her officers and crew that it is believed the *Sumter* will seek an encounter with the *Tuscarora*, and that her speed is such that she would, before receiving much damage, run alongside the Federal ship and seek a hand-to-hand conflict by boarding her.

The commanders of the *Nashville* and *Tuscarora*, Captains Pegram and Craven, were once shipmates. Lieutenant Jones, the First Lieutenant of the Federal vessel, is well known in Southampton, he having been an officer on board the United States' man-of-war *Merrimac*, which lay some time in Southampton Water a few years since, and which was burned by the Secessionists in Norfolk Navy-yard at the breaking out of the American rebellion.

The international law relative to the interval that must elapse between belligerent ships leaving a neutral port applies to the weakest ship following the strongest as well as vice versa, so that if the *Tuscarora* for any purpose were to leave Southampton Water first the *Nashville* would not be permitted to leave until twenty-four hours afterwards.

On Sunday week the Federal Consul, Captain Britton, was sitting by the side of the Confederate Captain Pegram at Holyrood Church listening to the Federal Bishop of Ohio (who happened to be visiting

Southampton) preaching the gospel of peace. The Southampton Mayor and Corporation were present out of compliment to the preacher, and were expecting at that very time news which would have compelled them to declare both the Federal Bishop and the Federal Consul national enemies. Such are some of the singular incongruities caused by the unhappy strife in the United States.

We this week print two Engravings illustrative of the singular spectacle now exhibited in the Southampton waters—the one being a bird's-eye view, exhibiting the relative position of the hostile steamers (see front page), and the other showing the position of the *Nashville* in the Docks (see page 41). Our artist in transmitting his sketches says:—"The *Nashville* now lies snugly at her berth in the docks. From the decks of the steamers on the northern side of the tidal basin the position of the vessels with respect to each other and the harbour is distinctly seen. The entrance is to the eastward, the channel of the River Itchen running south west between the basins. Close to the anchorage of Southampton itself is the *Eagle*, below an Irish steamer, and then immediately facing the outlet of the Itchen, directly in the course of vessels leaving the docks, is the *Tuscarora*. Then the *Mooltan*, just removed from her position ashore near the Needles, is now safely riding. Beyond are the *Dauntless* and her tender. Outside of Calshot Castle and Point is the Solent Channel, and in Cowes Roads, below the heights of Osborne, are anchored several ships, including the *Warrior*, whose guns bear almost directly in a straight line up Southampton water to the town." The ships *Dauntless*, *Mooltan*, and *Tuscarora*, will be seen in the same line in the distance.

### Foreign Intelligence.

#### FRANCE.

The Senate and Legislative Body of France are to meet on the 27th instant. The *Moniteur* announces that the Emperor in person will open the Session. The report on the state of the empire will, as in 1861, be laid on the table of each Chamber the day after the opening.

A convention has been signed at Madrid between the French Ambassador, on behalf of his Government, and the Government of Spain, having for its object to determine in a manner at once the most precise and the most favourable to the development of international relations the respective powers and functions of the consular agents of each country and the civil rights of the subjects of each in the territories of the other. This convention, which bears date Jan. 7, will come into force as soon as the ratifications shall have been exchanged.

M. Thouvenel has replied to Cardinal Antonelli by a new note upon the subject of the ex-King of Naples' residence in the Pontifical capital. The French Minister, it is said, once more strongly impresses on the Cardinal the serious inconveniences and dangers which arise from the presence of Francis II. in Rome, and requests that the Papal Government will urge its ill-omened guest to leave Rome and to seek an asylum in France or elsewhere.

The confiscation of the English papers is practised to so great an extent that it raises the suspicion that the confiscated journals must be the perquisite of some of the officials, who can sell them as "forbidden fruit," at an advanced price, while the subscribers to them are deprived of their property. It is clear that nothing can be worse than the system by which the foreign, as well as the French, press is governed.

#### SPAIN.

In the sitting of the Chamber of Deputies at Madrid, on the 9th, the Marquis de Premiorea put a question to Ministers about Mexican affairs, asking whether General Prim was to operate against Mexico as General-in-Chief of the Spanish, French, and English forces. The Minister of Foreign Affairs replied that the Government knew who was to be Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish forces, but that he had no official information on the other commands which might be confided to that officer, whoever he might be. In the Senate the bill fixing the strength of the army for 1862 at 100,000 men was read. The bill regarding the navy was to be shortly discussed. Sixty pieces of rifled ordnance have been cast at the Royal foundry of Trubia for the use of the Spanish army.

The Spanish Government has given orders that the *Sumter* shall be watched while she remains at Cadiz in order to prevent her taking arms and ammunition on board.

#### PORTUGAL.

Advices from Lisbon to the 7th inst. report that the Infante Dom Augusto was much better, and progressing rapidly towards convalescence. Do not evidently sacrificed his life in his solicitude for his brother's recovery; he even went so far as to lie beside Dom Augusto and read to him. The King was in perfect health, and continued to reside at Casias.

#### SWITZERLAND.

Both Houses of the Federal Assembly were opened on the 11th inst. The speeches of the two Presidents chiefly related to the political situation of Switzerland. The President of the Council of the States regretted the recent conflicts with France, but hoped that the rights of Switzerland would be preserved, especially in the question of the Valley of the Dappes. The President of the National Council urged Switzerland to have confidence in herself.

#### ITALY.

Prince Oscar of Sweden is on a visit to King Victor Emmanuel, being the first Royal personage who has so honoured his Majesty since his assumption of the title of King of Italy.

In a speech recently delivered by the Prince Royal, on the occasion of the inauguration of a local society, his Royal Highness urged the importance of Italy being true to herself, and said that "Italy needs to be sure that on the day of the struggle she will find a soldier in every citizen." This would seem to imply that the heir of the Re Galantuomo is animated by the same spirit as himself.

On the 9th inst. a well-attended meeting of the members forming the majority in the Chamber of Deputies was held for the purpose of considering whether, after the explanation given by Baron Ricasoli in a former meeting, the Parliamentary majority should continue to support the Ministry. Signor Minghetti spoke at great length in favour of the Ministry. The meeting unanimously resolved to continue to place confidence in the Ministry. Several deputies not belonging to the Parliamentary majority were present at the meeting, among whom were the Marquis Pepoli, General Sirtori, and others. It is generally believed that no attempt to disturb Baron Ricasoli's Cabinet will be made until the supplies for the year are voted, and that a dissolution of Parliament will then take place.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, Baron Ricasoli made a general statement of the policy of his Ministry. With regard to the Roman question, he said "that at Rome not only the interests of Italians, but of humanity in general, were at stake. Perhaps at this very moment our destinies are ripening. The Government, firm in the alliance with France, will continue to follow its present policy."

The brigands are again stirring in the Neapolitan provinces, but, having been vigorously pursued and hemmed in in the Capitanata, they had sought refuge in the mountains of Gargano, whence they made sallies, keeping the country in a state of alarm. The Government, however, have taken measures by which it is hoped tranquillity will soon be restored.

The disturbances at Castellamare, in Sicily, have been completely suppressed. On Saturday Baron Ricasoli informed the Chamber of Deputies that almost all the chiefs of the movement had been arrested and order restored, and that the local authorities considered there was no reason to apprehend any further outbreak.

Information has reached Rome of the entry of Piedmontese troops

into the province of Frosinone (Papal territory) to occupy some of the principal rallying points of the reactionary bands who continually infest the frontier and cross over from the dominions of his Holiness into those of Victor Emmanuel. This step could only be effected with the consent of the French military authorities in that province. The intelligence has produced much excitement at Rome, especially as it is rumoured that the movement of the Italian troops across the frontier is merely precursory to their occupation of the whole of the provinces of Marittima and Campagna, which would bring them to Velletri, only eight-and-twenty miles from Rome.

#### AUSTRIA.

Count Rechberg, who was recently summoned by telegraph to Venice, unexpectedly returned to Vienna on Monday and had a conference with the Archduke Rainer, after which a Ministerial Council was held. The representatives of the great Powers have since had conferences with the Minister of the Interior. It is believed that political measures of an important character are under consideration.

#### PRUSSIA.

The Prussian Chambers were opened on Tuesday with a speech from the King in person. His Majesty touched in feeling terms on the death of Prince Albert, and rejoiced in the amicable settlement of the Anglo-American difficulty. He stated that his personal interview with the Emperor of the French had paved the way for more satisfactory commercial relations between the two countries, and added that, in concert with Austria, he had entered into confidential negotiations with Denmark in reference to the Duchies. After reference to affairs in Hesse Cassel, and to the project of a German fleet, his Majesty touched on domestic affairs, and laid down the principle that the development of their institutions must be subordinated to the strength of the country. He could never permit that the development of political life should endanger the rights of the Crown or the security of the country. The revenue, it appears, is in a flourishing state.

The voters of Prussia have by their elections bestowed their confidence and trust on four Ministers of the State, 95 lawyers of all grades and shades, 39 administrative State officials, 8 pensioned civil functionaries, 3 pensioned officers of the army, 15 functionaries of town communities, 14 clergymen, 20 professors and other professionals of science, 4 authors, 3 medical men, 38 "squires" or proprietors of large estates, 5 village mayors, 6 manufacturers, 12 merchants, 4 "particulars" or gentlemen with a competency from the interest of their money, 23 Poles (the Irish Brigade of Prussia), and 60 of social positions not ascertained yet. Among these 352 representatives of the people are two Englishmen, a native and a naturalised one—John Prince Smith, Esq., a delegate of the metropolis, and Dr. Faucher, for many years foreign editor of a London newspaper, both scientific and radical advocates of national economy and free trade, and, in truth, the leaders of the German free-trade party, or rather of the science of national economy.

The National Verein has paid into the hands of the Prussian Minister of Marine a total sum of 140,000 florins, which is just the cost of a gun-boat of the first class, and which is to be called the *Germany*.

#### HESSE CASSEL.

A communication from Cassel says:—"Persons in a position to be well informed declare that the Ministry of Electoral Hesse intends henceforth to govern without the Chambers, and to regulate the most pressing affairs by ordinances, as the Second Chamber has, for the third time, refused to accede to the wishes of the Government. In order to gain over at least one class of citizens to the new order of things, the salaries of all functionaries, without distinction, have been increased one-fourth."

#### RUSSIA AND POLAND.

An official decree published in St. Petersburg on Tuesday suppresses the department of the Council of the Empire for Polish Affairs. The appointment of the Polish Council of State has, the decree declares, rendered the existence of the department superfluous. The latter body will shortly be convened for an extraordinary session, in order to settle the relations between the landlords and the peasant.

#### WEST COAST OF AFRICA.

The news from the West Coast of Africa contains the usual accounts of petty wars and disturbances. At Lagos the native chiefs were discontented on account of the cession of the place to England, and were disposed to contest it; while in the Quibh territory, near Sierra Leone, very serious disturbances had broken out, and severe fighting had ensued between our troops and the natives. Major Hill had been mortally wounded, and Captains Jones and Williams and twenty-four privates dangerously hurt.

#### CHINA.

We have details from China of the *coup d'état* which has been effected at Peking. The members of the Council of Regency, appointed by the late Emperor, after being accused of various crimes against the State, were all either banished, beheaded, or allowed to commit suicide; and the two widowed Empresses and Prince Kung exercise regal authority on behalf of the youthful Monarch. The news from other quarters, including Japan, is unimportant.

#### INDIA.

From India the accounts are again satisfactory. The various public bodies had taken the opportunity of Mr. Laing's return to Calcutta of presenting to him addresses congratulating him on the restoration of his health and expressing their satisfaction at the recent measures of the Government for restoring the equilibrium of the finances and for encouraging European capital and enterprise in India. They also pointed out that, if all put their shoulder to the wheel, cotton to any extent could be raised in that peninsula. Mr. Laing expressed his pleasure at receiving so strong a testimony to the wisdom of the measures of the Government from such important bodies. He said he thought that the permanent substitution of Indian for American cotton could never be attained until the quality of Indian cotton had been improved, which could only be brought about by improved means of communication, and the presence in the cotton districts of European agents to make advances. In reference to the proposed abolition of the import duties, he said he could hold out no pledge, as he thought the first duty of a Chancellor of the Exchequer was to resist the desire to gain popularity by remitting taxes until he was assured that he had obtained a solid surplus.

#### AUSTRALASIA.

In Victoria, at the date of the last advices, another change of Ministry had taken place, Mr. Heales having been defeated on his budget, which proved unpalatable alike to Protectionists and to Free-traders. The Opposition, headed by Mr. O'Shanassy, had formed a new Government, one of the members of which is Mr. Duffy, who has resumed his old position as Commissioner of Lands. The Victoria Industrial Exhibition had been extremely successful, and as all the articles therein exhibited are to have a place in the building so soon to be opened at South Kensington, we shall all have an opportunity of forming our own opinion of Australian progress and capacity.

In New Zealand the prospects of peace were more favourable. Sir George Grey had commenced a series of visits to the native chiefs, which it was thought would lead to the restoration of friendly relations between the races.

A MAN IN MICHIGAN lately committed suicide by drowning. As the body could not be found, the coroner held an inquest on his hat and jacket, found on the bank of the lake, and returned a verdict of "Found empty."

## THE SPANISH EXPEDITION TO MEXICO.

THE Spanish steamer *Francis Asis* arrived at Havannah on the 28th ult. She reports that the Spanish expedition arrived at Vera Cruz on the 8th, and that the governor of that city had twenty-four hours to decide if he would abandon it. The Governor replied that he had instructions to abandon the city as soon as he perceived that he could not resist the force brought against it, and then, with the troops, withdrew to the interior.

On the 17th the Spanish troops disembarked, and hoisted the Spanish flag on the fortress of San Juan d'Ulloa and in the principal squares of Vera Cruz. One hundred guns were found in San Juan d'Ulloa.

The *Diario Marina* says that the municipal authorities and the people of Vera Cruz received the Spaniards with shouts of welcome.

The Governor, before evacuating the city, issued a proclamation forbidding all communication with or supplies being given to the Spaniards, and declaring that all Mexicans who failed to take up arms in defence of Mexico, or who remained in the Spanish army, would be treated as traitors.

The Spanish commander, Gasset, on landing, issued a stirring address to the troops, in which he says, "Your mission has only now commenced. It will only be finished when all Spain can say these are the troops who have avenged in Mexico the insults offered to the Spanish flag, and have again won the affection of those who in other days were our brothers." Commander Gasset also issued a proclamation to the inhabitants, which says:—"The Spanish troops come with no mission of conquest. They come solely to demand satisfaction for non-fulfilment of treaties and for violence committed against Spaniards, and to obtain guarantees against the repetition of similar outrages. Peaceful inhabitants will receive protection, but disturbers of order will be tried by a military commission." The Spanish officer urges the inhabitants to return to their occupations; and says he is confident that the greatest satisfaction to the Spanish army, after having fulfilled the mission of the Queen, will be to return to Spain with the certainty of having merited the affection of the Mexicans.

The French frigates *Guerria*, *Ardenti*, *Massena*, and *Astrio* arrived at Havannah on the 27th ult., under the command of Admiral La Gravière.

General Prim arrived at Havannah on the 23rd, and was received with intense enthusiasm. The city was illuminated and the streets festooned with flags.

The Mexicans have evacuated Tampico and several other positions on the coast besides Vera Cruz.

The New York press generally considers that there will be no American interference in Mexican affairs unless a permanent Spanish occupation should be attempted.

## THE INTERIOR OF AUSTRALIA.

## MELANCHOLY FATE OF AN EXPLORING PARTY.

THE character of the interior of the Australian Continent had long been a mystery which it was felt ought to be cleared up, and in 1860 an exploring expedition was organised at Melbourne. There was a committee and plenty of funds, and in August of that year the expedition, well provided, and under the command of Richard O'Hara Burke, started from Melbourne. Towards the end of September it reached the Darling River, where Mr. Burke established a dépôt of provisions, in charge of Mr. Wright, he himself and seven others pushing on for Cooper's Creek, to which place Wright was instructed to follow. Cooper's Creek lies almost due north from Melbourne, from which it is distant 700 miles, and seems to have been the most northern point therefore reached by explorers, so that it lay on the threshold of the unknown region. Here it was the intention of Mr. Burke to form his principal dépôt of supplies. He arrived at the spot about the middle of November. Wright's party was obstructed in its progress by disease and by the natives, and towards the middle of December, Burke impatient at longer delay, resolved to set out on his "dim and perilous" journey through the unknown regions of the continent. He left at Cooper's Creek four of the seven who accompanied him thither, Mr. Brahe being in charge of the party. Brahe's instructions were to remain until Burke should return, or until their provisions ran short. The leader of the expedition himself, with three companions—Mr. Wills, Mr. King, and Mr. Gray—and having with him one horse, six camels, and three months' provisions, started northward on the 16th of December. What were the privations and sufferings of this party on their exploring route, who can tell? The intrepidity and fortitude of the travellers were, however, equal to the enterprise. The southern point of the Gulf of Carpentaria, which opens into the Indian Ocean, was reached successfully by the party on Feb. 11, the great feat having been performed for the first time of a successful journey right across the Australian continent from south to north. Although it was known that the southern point of the gulf was the place where the explorers aimed at reaching, no preparations had been made there to receive them—no succour, no supplies awaited their arrival—nothing had been done. They rested three days and then faced southwards on their return. If the exploratory journey had been filled with privations and suffering, what must the return have been? Most of the way back was travelled on foot, their burdens one after another having had to be killed for food, for the stock of provisions was exhausted. One of the party, Mr. Gray, succumbed from hunger and exhaustion a day or two before the party reached Cooper's Creek. Mr. Burke and his two remaining companions did reach it, however, on the 21st of April, rather more than four months after leaving it. Footsore exhausted with hunger, naked—for their clothes had been torn off their backs by the bush—they reached the spot where they naturally looked for welcome, for food, and for whatever might assuage the pangs of their long and sore travel. They reached Cooper's Creek, however, only to find it deserted by the party left there; and who can fully conceive the feelings of bitter disappointment, if not of desperation or despondency, which must have taken possession of the souls of these men when they found, by a memorandum left behind, that Mr. Brahe's party had only taken its departure the same morning!

Here all the painful interest of this most dismal tragedy centres. Brahe seems to have broken his instructions in leaving; but had he only waited one day longer! In that case Burke and Wills would now have been alive. As it is, they perished of hunger in the desert. The store left behind by Brahe was soon exhausted, the wanderers had not strength to push on for Darling River; and, after languishing, with slight assistance from the needy natives, Wills first laid himself down to die, shortly after followed by the gallant leader of the party himself. King, the lone survivor, was rescued a month afterwards by a searching party that had been sent out, and has arrived in Melbourne, where he was received by the Governor, the Mayor, and the population generally, in the kindest manner.

The mismanagement which led to this melancholy result of so great and interesting a success we shall leave to the official inquiry instituted at Melbourne. On the broader question there is but one opinion expressed: the geographical knowledge obtained by Burke's courage and enterprise is of unspeakable value. All the stories about the centre of the continent being an uncultivable desert, without water or grass, are now shown to be pure myths. The diary kept by the explorers proves it to be, in that direction at any rate, a rich and fertile country. For the first few days out from Cooper's Creek nothing was met with save pretty valleys, some of them beautifully green; magnificent water-holes, covered with wild fowl, and some of them abounding in fish; and flights of brilliantly-plumaged birds, some of them entirely new to science. The country generally is described as of the finest description for pastoral purposes. There are, no doubt, un fertile and even desert tracks, and towards the north much marshy land; but, upon the whole, the notices of "delightful spots," "undulating plains," "rivulets of

pure water, clear as crystal," greatly predominate in the diary. Nor are the mineral treasures of the continent few or confined to gold, for the travellers found iron ore in abundance. The gloomy vaticinations as to the future of the Australian continent, founded upon the supposed sterility of the interior, must now cease. That continent evidently has a great career before it, and the Anglo-Saxon race a new history.

## IRELAND.

LOCAL TAXATION IN DUBLIN.—The citizens of Dublin are beginning to complain of the increasing burden of taxation. In the South Dublin Union the poor-rate is 2s. in the pound, and the north 2s. 6d. The whole of the rates in the south amount to 7s. 6d. in the pound, and the total in the north is 8s. 0d. in the pound.

THE APPREHENDED FAMINE AND DISTRESS.—There is a possibility, if the weather should continue favourable, of the people yet securing enough of turf in some places to carry them through the winter. A letter from Scariff says:—"In consequence of the lengthened period of fine weather the poor are getting, comparatively speaking, well off, as the turf is becoming dry. Should the weather continue as at present for a fortnight longer, turf will be cheaper than last season." A correspondent at Dublin writes in this cheerful style:—"Our Irish famine is nearly over without the loss of a single life. Food is cheaper and more abundant than last year, employment better through the openness of the season, and the health of the population at large excellent, without an appearance of change. We expect the paper list, which contains about 53,000, or 7000 more than last year, will begin to diminish, as usual, at the end of February, and continue to do so until the usual minimum season in September. Peel is one of the hardest-working secretaries we ever had, and very pleasant to deal with."

SECRET SOCIETIES.—These peculiar curses of Ireland appear again to be flourishing. Smith O'Brien, Archdeacon Fitzgerald, and even Dr. Cullen, have each warned the Roman Catholic youth of the country to avoid them; and now their existence and treasonable character are admitted by the *Evening Post*. That journal, in a late impression, thus refers to them:—"From various sources we learn that agents, employed for the purpose, are going through the country, swearing in young men in a 'brotherhood' for some political and illegal object. One correspondent says: 'The oaths are of a desperate and treasonable character.' His Grace the Most Reverend Doctor Cullen has repeatedly and recently denounced all such societies; and the Catholic hierarchy and clergy are constantly warning the people against any connection with them. It is stated that the authorities are now in possession of the names of some of the persons who have had the folly and criminality to become members of a secret confederacy, and the fact ought to operate as a timely warning to innocent people who might be entrapped in ignorance of the consequences."

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGES.—It appears from the official returns that 309 students have entered the three colleges this session, and appear in their classes for the first time. Of these all but 52 are matriculated. Of this latter class Belfast has received 113, Cork 89, and Galway 55. The total number of matriculated students now actually attending the classes is—Belfast, 297; Cork, 207; Galway, 151—total, 655. To these add 97 non-matriculated students, and we have the whole number attending the classes in the three colleges, that is 752. In the Dublin University and in Oxford a large proportion of those who enter are studying for the Church, or the Christian ministry. But in the Queen's Colleges the students are all preparing for other professions. Allowances being made for this difference, the number of entrants this session, 909, must appear to every candid person astonishing large. Not less gratifying are the returns as regards the religious denominations of the students, who are almost equally divided between the three leading communions. The members of the Church of England are 205; Roman Catholics, 208; Presbyterians of the General Assembly, 247; other denominations, 92.

OUTRAGES.—On Sunday week, during the absence of the family at mass, Annie Spencer, a farmer's wife, residing in the townland of Clonaghil, was fired at and shot in the neck and head, from the effects of which she died on the following day. Robbery has been the motive of this outrage, as a box in the house was broken open and a sum of £8 taken therefrom. Two parties named Jeremiah Moon and John Hetherington, have been arrested, and remanded by the magistrates for further examination.—A party of four men, all armed and their faces blackened, went the other day to the house of a farmer named David Hayes, of Ringmoyle, and, having obtained an entrance, demanded firearms. Hayes having replied that his gun was lent, they searched the house, and, having found no arms, swore Hayes on a Prayer-book as to whether he had any or not. They then left without doing any further injury, firing shots as they departed.—A man named Patrick Bolger, a farmer, when returning from Queen's county, was violently attacked by eight or ten men, who knocked him down and beat him most unmercifully. From the injuries inflicted on his head and body his life is in danger. Six of the men have been arrested. It is said that the object of his cowardly assailants was to prevent his prosecuting a matrimonial suit with a widow who is related to some of them.

THE LATE LORD EGLINTON.—The Eglinton Testimonial Committee held its first general meeting on Friday week—Lord Naas, M.P., in the chair. The hon. secretaries, in handing in a list of subscriptions, announced that they had received from the Lord Lieutenant a most gratifying letter inclosing a check for £25. Sufficient time for answers to the circular had not yet elapsed, but Mr. Woods Mansell said that subscriptions were coming in by every post, and the sum already received was little short of £1000.

## SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH ART-TREASURES EXHIBITION.—The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Chancellor of the Exchequer, visited this exhibition on Friday week, and expressed his surprise at the extent and value of the collections. In the evening a large number of the pupils of the Watt Institute, Adam-square, visited the exhibition, when the more valuable and interesting objects were pointed out to them. Upwards of four thousand persons have passed through the rooms during the past week, and many are now expressing their regret that it was necessary to close on the 18th instant.

THE RIVER CLYDE.—Of the Clyde it is impossible to speak in other language than that of admiration. It is but the fourth river in Scotland in volume of fresh water, and the third in length; inferior to the Forth or Tay in Highland scenery, and to the Tweed in pastoral beauty; but it is superior to all of them in utility, in artificial improvement, in manufactures, in commerce, and in the triumphs of mechanical genius. The improvements on this river have, we must say, been conducted on a scale of unusual magnificence. About a century ago its depth at the point where the Kelvin discharges into its channel was only eighteen inches at low water and forty-four inches at high water. Its course, far below Dumbarton, abounded in shallow lagoons, interspersed with low islets and marshy ground. By judicious engineering operations, spread over a series of years accompanied with an enormous expenditure of capital, it is now as navigable as the Thames. In fact, by dint of dredging, cutting, excavating, and embanking, to the tune of about a million and a half sterling, the navigable depth of the river has been increased within the last fifty or sixty years from three feet to twenty feet, and the revenue from £3000 to £90,000 per annum. The Broomielaw harbour is at this moment practically nothing less than half a mile of excellent docks—we need not say how crowded; and the contrast is indeed great between the small fishing-sloops and Virginia traders which once unloaded their treasures on the same spot where now floats the gigantic iron steamer and the merchantman of 2000 tons, which constitute the honour and glory of the Clyde.—*Builder*.—The improvements on the channel of the Clyde between Greenock and Dumbarton have caused the erection of a new lighthouse on a perch opposite to Port Glasgow harbour. Previously this part of the river was lighted for navigation by a large lamp on Port Glasgow Quay; but since the formation of the new channel of the river the old light has been found to be ineffective in pointing out the course for vessels to take at night, and, consequently, the Dumbarnie light trustees found it necessary to erect a lighthouse about three hundred feet from the shore; and the Clyde trustees have erected a light on the west end of Port Glasgow Quay, in order to make the new lighthouse available for vessels navigating the new channel, which has now an average depth of 25ft. at high water.

## THE PROVINCES.

WRECK IN THE BRISTOL CHANNEL.—The particulars of a very disastrous shipwreck in the Bristol Channel were received at Lloyd's on Saturday last. The unfortunate vessel was a fine barque called the *Harriet Cann*, Captain Chipman, bound to Gloucester from New York with a cargo of upwards of 600 tons of wheat. On Thursday evening week she was making her way up the Channel for the Svern, the wind blowing strong, when about eight o'clock she struck upon the Sterweather Sands, on the Glamorgan-shire coast, near the Mumbles. Every effort was made to get her off, but without avail. The water gained rapidly upon her, notwithstanding the active working of the pumps; and, as there was no chance of saving the ill-fated ship, the captain and crew abandoned her in two boats. It was supposed that she would not hold long together, as the sea was breaking over her with great force. The crew, after being buffeted about all night, were picked up in the morning, and landed at Swansea. They had lost everything, and were in a very destitute condition. Later accounts from the wreck state that she had come on shore under the drift, and, from some inexplicable circumstance, had caught fire and was burning furiously. The cargo (wheat and Indian corn) was coming on shore in small quantities. The *Harriet Cann* was a fine ship, about five years old. Her loss and that of the cargo will involve a considerable amount.

DESPERATE AFFRAY.—A desperate affray took place between a number of salmon-poachers and five of the Northumberland county constabulary, at Bramshugh, near E. Hon, on the Coquet, on Saturday night last, and it is supposed that one of the poachers has lost his life by drowning. It seems that, in consequence of information having come to the ears of the authorities that extensive salmon poaching was going on upon the Coquet, the county police were instructed to keep a look-out, and upon Saturday night five police-officers on the watch came upon twelve men in the act of taking salmon from the river. The river was much flooded, and the poachers, who were consequently all on land, fled on seeing the officers. They gave chase, but were immediately confronted with another gang of poachers, and a fierce contest with staves and sticks ensued. After a hard battle four of the latter gang were captured by the police, and they have been brought to Carlisle in carts in custody. It seems that part of the first gang of poachers, in their endeavours to escape from the police, took to the flooded river, which was sweeping down with great violence. Two of the men actually escaped by swimming across, but a third person in this gang is supposed to have been swept away and drowned. Cries of distress were heard to come from the river while the affray was going on between the second gang and the police, and then gradually die away, and the person known as the third in the first gang has not been heard of since. He was a shoemaker belonging to Felton. Thirteen salmon were taken from the poachers.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN LEEDS.—A fire of a very serious character occurred in Leeds last week, where a large building, forming three sides of a square, in the immediate neighbourhood of the Great Northern Railway station, and occupied in its various floors by different firms, was burnt nearly to the ground. Great fears were at one time entertained for the safety of the railway station, but, happily, the flames were averted from that quarter. The damage actually done is estimated at between £12,000 and £15,000, and the insurances effected by the different parties are said to cover very inadequately the total extent of the loss. There seems some reason to fear that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

THE DISTRESS IN THE MANUFACTURING DISTRICTS.—A meeting was held at Rochdale, on Monday, to consider the distress prevailing in that town, as in other parts of the manufacturing districts. Mr. Bright attended, and took a more sanguine view of the state of affairs than most of those present. The distress was, not yet at least, greater than it had been in some former years; and as to the supplies of cotton, he was confident that if other nations would let America alone the North would subdue the South in the course of the next six months. As for the immediate pressure, he suggested that the guardians of the poor should apply to the Poor-law Board for permission to make loans to the factory hands out of work on the understanding that those loans should be repaid in better times. His firm had occasionally done this with their workmen, and they seldom, if ever, came to any loss. There is much sense in this suggestion, but we believe it would work better in the hands of private parties than of the parish authorities.—Public distress, in consequence of the slackness of trade, is spreading in Blackburn. Last week 2300 more people were relieved than in the previous week, and the condition of hundreds of working people in that locality is described as most deplorable. About £1000 have been raised to relieve the distress.

MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS.—An important case under the Extradition Act with America occupied the attention of the sitting magistrate at Bow-street the other day. Several seamen on board the *George*, United States' vessel, charged M'Lauren, the chief mate, with murdering one of the crew on the high seas, by striking him on the head with a belaying-pin, in consequence of which he died some days afterwards. The sailors swore to circumstantial details of the outrage; while the captain and second mate swore as positively that no such outrage had occurred, that there was no wound on the deceased's head, and that his death arose from natural causes. The magistrate said that, if the case was within English jurisdiction, he could certainly send the prisoner for trial, and therefore he held it to be a fit subject for extradition. The prisoner was accordingly committed to await the Secretary of State's warrant.

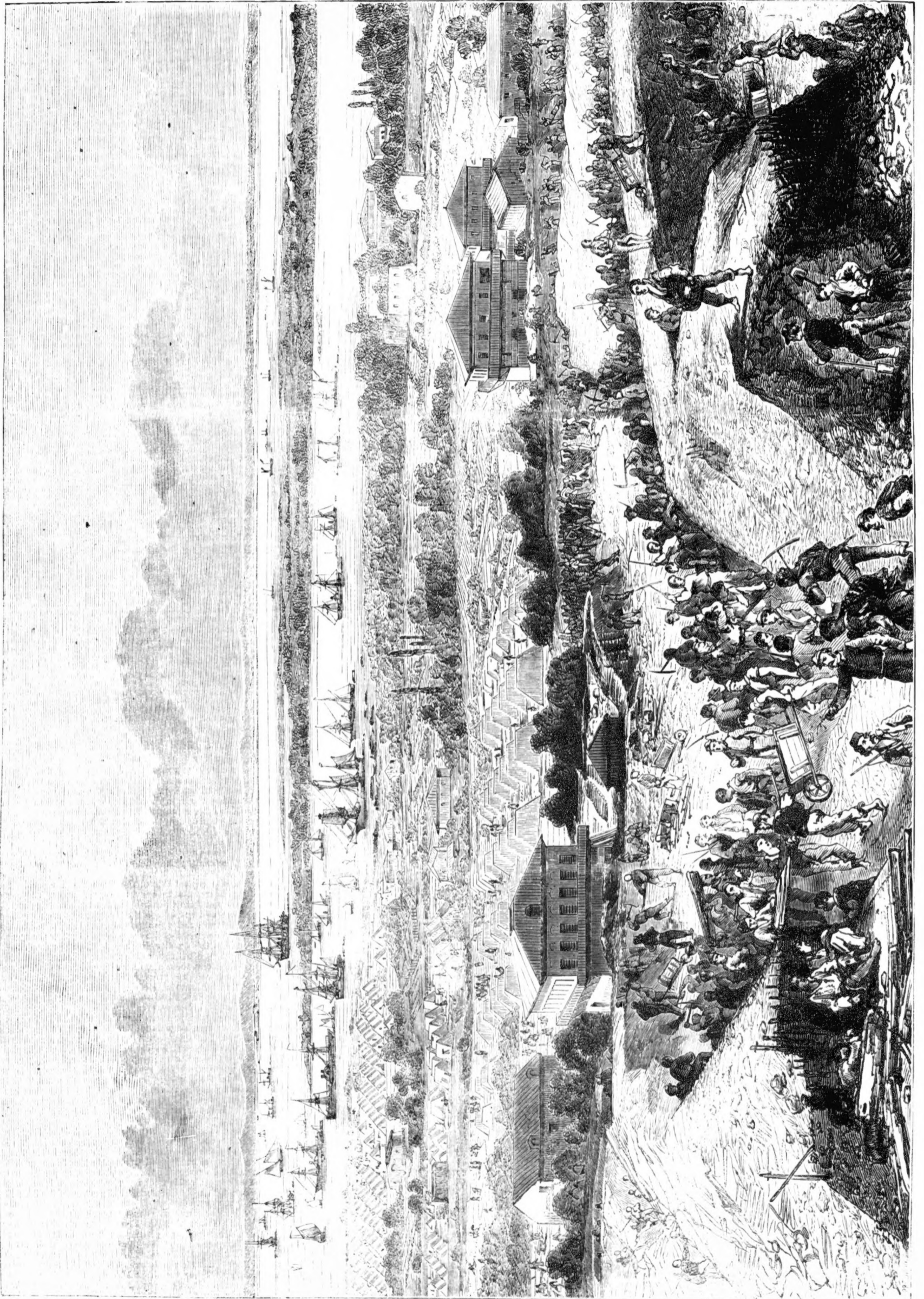
FORGERY OF RUSSIAN BANK NOTES.—It appears that for some time past the manufacture of forged Russian rouble notes has taken place in this country, and the detective police have been on the *qui vive* to discover the culprits. On Monday three persons were examined before Mr. Alderman Mechi, at the Mansion House, on a charge of being concerned in this fraudulent business. The evidence submitted was of a preliminary character, but enough was proved to justify a remand. At the residence of one of the prisoners a copper-plate, representing the ornamental part of a Russian note of ten roubles, was discovered.

RUSSIA AND THE POPE.—Russia has consented to the re-establishment of a Papal Nuncio at St. Petersburg, an office suppressed for the last eight years. The Pope announced the fact to the Cardinals on Tuesday, and at the same time expressed a hope that this concession might be the precursor of other concessions on the part of the Emperor of Russia to the precursor of people of Poland. The Pope also stated that he had addressed a personal request to the Emperor of Russia for the liberation of the priests confined in the citadel of Warsaw, and the restoration of those who have been exiled to Siberia. To see the Pope thus endeavouring to interpose his influence between the despotic power and the oppressed, recalls to mind some incidents of the brightest and best days of the Papacy.

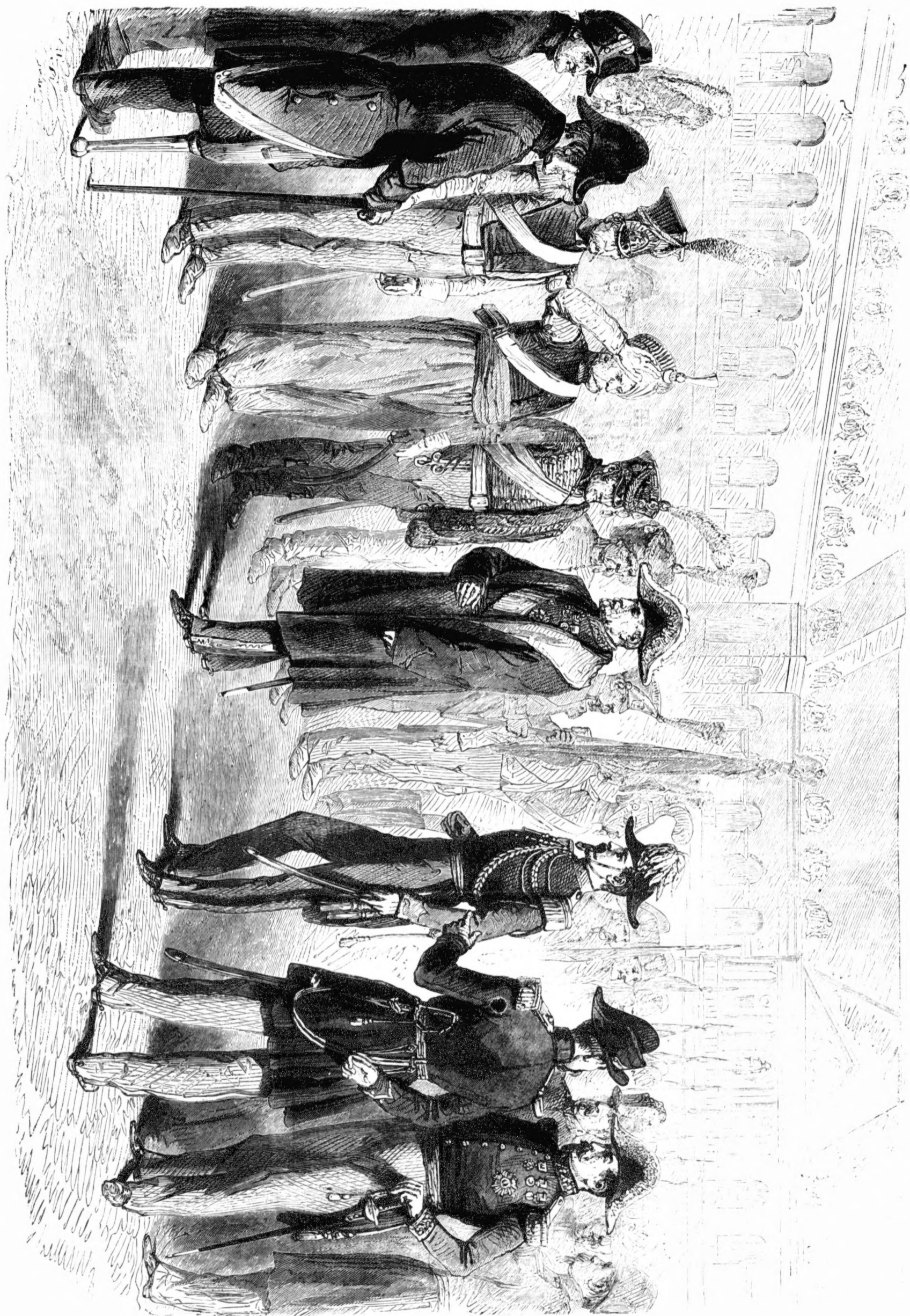
## FEDERAL ENCAMPMENT AT BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA.

As our readers are aware, the Federals some time ago sent an expedition, under the command of General Sherman and Commodore Dupont, against Port Royal, South Carolina, the scene of the settlement formed by the expropriated French Huguenots in the reign of Charles IX. After capturing Port Royal, General Sherman pushed on a portion of his forces to Beaufort, a town or city some distance further up, which he found partially deserted, the leading inhabitants having retired after destroying the greater portion of their property. Here an encampment was formed by the Northern troops (see Engraving), where they intrenched themselves, and from this position they are said to have made reconnaissances to within fifteen miles of Charleston, the capital city of the State. It is reported however, that sickness prevails to a great degree among the troops, the Northerners not being fitted by acclimation to exist amid the unwholesome swamps of the South, especially when exposed to all the inconveniences and privations of camp life. The Southern men appear to have offered but little opposition as yet to the operations of the Federals in this quarter—perhaps biding their time and trusting to the influences of climate and exposure to accomplish ultimately what it might cost them some trouble to do immediately by force of arms. At any rate, the press in New York is complaining as loudly of inaction on the part of General Sherman in South Carolina as on that of General McClellan on the Potomac. That they should be superseded and tried—nay, even hanged—for incapacity or treachery, are the every-day propositions respecting these two officers, who, but a few months ago, were lauded as the most daring, skillful, and accomplished of commanders. General Sherman is reported to have taken a step which will no doubt bring down upon him still fiercer denunciations from the newspapers—he has ordered all reporters to leave his position, on the ground that they supplied information which enabled the Confederates to frustrate his plans. If this was really done by any member of the press, it justifies the course the General has taken; but we fear it will in the end show that the post of a leader in the armies of the Federal Republic is by no means a pleasant one.

The latest intelligence from Beaufort and Port Royal is to the 24th and 25th ult. It is said that no demonstration of any kind had been made by the Confederates. On the other hand, the Federal troops were making rapid advances into the State, making their position secure as they advanced, and scouting parties were daily pushed in every direction, one proceeding from Port Royal Island to almost within sight of Savannah. A portion of the 79th Regiment had made a reconnaissance fifteen miles from Beaufort, and taken six Confederate prisoners. These reconnaissances and scouts had established the fact that the Confederates are able to concentrate in a short time upon any given point from 15,000 to 20,000 men. Another important gun-boat reconnaissance had been made, which had been pushed within fifteen miles of Charleston, at a town called Rockwell. Here a force of 400 Confederates was found, who retreated. At Tybee the Federal forces were still engaged on the intrenchments. It was expected that a movement would soon be made in the direction of Savannah. The number of Confederate troops at that place was put down at about 2000. On the 23rd a boat containing a number of rebels came down the channel from Savannah to sound the bar, it was supposed, for the British steamer *Fingal*, which was loaded with cotton, and waiting to run the blockade. The boat was chased ashore, and two of the crew captured.



ENCAMPMENT OF FEDERAL TROOPS BEFORE BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA.



MARSHAL DORNANO INSPECTING THE OLD SOLDIERS OF THE BRITISH IN THE CITY OF THE INVALTIONS, PARIS

## THE REVIEW OF THE OLD SOLDIERS OF THE EMPIRE.

THERE still remain some of the brave old companions of the first Napoleon, the warriors of Eylau, Lutzen, Friedland, and Marengo—great in their victories at Ansterlitz and Egypt, great even in their defeats at Moscow and at Waterloo. Every year, on the anniversary of the day when the ashes of their glorious General were returned to France, these veterans parade at the Invalides, and many of them go by a wreath on the tomb of the man whose name was so long a watchword to inspire them with faith in France and courage to fight her battles.

Since the 15th of December, 1810, however, their ranks have been terribly thinned. Where are now the old soldiers of the Republic—those who fought barefoot—the defenders of Toulon, the volunteers of Arcole? They have been the first to go. Then followed at the call of death the Egyptians, crippled with wounds, bowed by a weight of years, burned by the scorching sun of Aboukir, or frozen by the winters at Beresina—they have followed each other to the grave until now their fame alone survives amongst their comrades at the Invalides.

There yet survive, however, representatives of the Grenadiers of the Guard, the Guides, the Cuirassiers, the Red Lancers, the Mamelukes, the Dragoons, and the Hussars. It is a painful yet a great sight to see these old warriors as they appeared lately before Marshal D'Ornano, in spite of wounds and feebleness, force themselves from the chair which holds them day after day to put on the old grey uniform again—once more in berceuses, almost paralysed, hands to grasp the sword, to march with tottering feet, but still with a flicker of the old martial fire, to the sound of the drum. They belong to a past age, when France to them meant glory; battle, empire—when the army meant France. As some old and well-known officer, leaning on a younger arm, comes towards them, you may see the light in the dimmed eyes revive; still brighter it gleams when the flag, pierced with bullets whose "whizz" was once familiar to their ears, is taken from the chapel. A marvellous sight;—men of another epoch who have lived to see themselves a part of the past—to see their own deeds, their own history, recorded in marble, bronze, and pictures—to become themselves but a memory revived year by year as their diminishing numbers stand there on a mournful parade to do honour to their dead chief!

### AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

THE steamer America, which left New York on the evening of the 31st of December, and the Nova Scotian, from Portland, with advices to the 3rd inst., have arrived. By them we learn that the public excitement on the Trent question had considerably subsided, and that the tone of the newspapers towards England had become much more moderate, though the uneasy feeling in the public mind in regard to the relations with this country had not entirely disappeared. The belligerent tone of the English press and the British warlike preparations have caused the impression to gain ground that England will shortly make the subject of the blockade, or the fact of vessels being sunk in the Southern harbours, a pretext for war with America. That the removal of the apprehensions of a war with this country must be felt as a great relief to the Federal Government and people cannot be doubted, in view of the great financial embarrassments which are pressing upon them. Almost all the leading banks have suspended specie payments, a course which has been led or followed by the United States' Treasury itself. The interest on the public debt to Jan. 1 will be paid in specie, but the demand notes will not be redeemed. The banks had resolved not to take up the third fifty millions of the loan. This alarming state of things, say the New York papers, is only the beginning of another leaf in the history of the war, and recourse to immediate taxation, in proportion to the national expenditure, can alone prevent a grand collapse at its conclusion.

General McClellan's health has much improved, and he is urgently pressed to make a movement in advance, even at the risk of being "whipped."

The Eugenia Smith, from which two persons were taken by a Federal vessel, is supposed to be an American hoisting English colours. It is reported that these prisoners, too, will be given up.

Messrs. Mason and Slidell and their secretaries embarked on the 1st inst., at Providence-town, on board the British steamer Rinaldo, for Halifax, whence it was believed they would proceed to Europe in one of the mail steamers. Their departure caused scarcely any excitement. The comments of the New York press on the subject are unimportant.

The Senate has agreed to Mr. Sumner's resolution asking the President to transmit to the Senate all the correspondence which has taken place since the Paris Congress in relation to neutral and belligerent rights upon the ocean.

Mr. Stevens has obtained leave to introduce a bill into Congress for the abolition of the southern ports as ports of entry. Mr. Stevens, in a speech which he made in Congress, said that the conduct of France in interfering in the Trent affair was impertinent. "France," said Mr. Stevens, "was not invited to interfere, and when the American domestic troubles are settled, America must look into the Holy Alliance between France and England, and see how far they shall be permitted to control American affairs."

There was a rumour of a battle in Kentucky, but of which no details are given. The Confederates in that State have destroyed a large portion of the railway between Louisville and Nashville. The Charleston Mercury states that a large Federal force had landed on North Edisto and seized the railway station and some war-vessels. It is reported at Ship Island that Fort Pickens opened fire on Pensacola on the 1st inst. The result is unknown.

A Federal steamer has been dispatched to the coast of Europe for the protection of American commerce. Others are expected to leave shortly.

A destructive fire has taken place at Richmond, Virginia. This, following so closely after the great fire at Charleston, has excited suspicions of incendiarism; and one Northern journal has declared that a conspiracy had been entered into with some trusty negroes to lay all the great towns of the South in ashes. We hope this is not true; and feel convinced that the Government, at least, is innocent of such atrocity.

### THE BLOCKING-UP OF CHARLESTON HARBOUR.

Federal America has "erected a monument more durable than brass." Not merely where the English language is spoken, but wherever commerce, with its hundred hands and many-voiced, spreads its power, extends its sympathies, creates ties, and inspires obligations, there will remain a reminiscence, and there will be told a story of a deed done in that deadly feud which parted the North and the South of the Great Republic, dreaming to overshadow the world, that will rival the memorable feat of the Persian King who cut a channel through the Macedonian Mount Athos. The performances differed somewhat; for the barbaric Monarch dug a passage for the fleets of his armed suite, whilst the civilised Republic strives to block up a highway for the navies of all nations.

The barbarous effort—we can assure our readers it is merely an effort, and not a thorough success—to seal up the entrance to Charleston harbour was commenced on the 19th of December last year, and occupied three days. Captain H. Davis, of the Wabash, had the signal honour of superintending and conducting the plan for safely accomplishing this remarkable stroke of Yankee spite, and for which we trust his name will be embalmed in the ejaculations of grateful nations for ages to come. Sixteen stone-filled hulks placed checkerwise, at the "scientific" suggestions of Captain Davis, in the deepest water, but at the inner and outer edges of the bar formed by the flux and reflux of the stream on the loose sands of the neighbouring coast, "are the mediums," writes a newspaper historian of the event, "through which this

righteous retribution has been measured out." The vessels were old, condemned whalers, three-score years of age and more, and were towed to their inglorious rest and ruinous inaction by Federal steam-vessels, convoyed and protected by a frigate and gun-boats, which served to impart a dignity, national character, and solemnity as well as to secure the safety of all concerned in so honourable a service. The hulks were placed checkerwise, instead of being ranged, as at first determined, in a straight line across the channel, as this position ensured the establishment of a series of shoals, around which "the tide will whirl and eddy, making an intricate labyrinth which no vessel could navigate. All the wrecks were prepared for quick scuttling before leaving the north. Nothing was required but to drive a plug, and the water rushed in with force enough to fill them in an hour." The vessels were sunk about two miles and a half from the shore; "and the masts and rigging were cut away in order that they might drift to sea, for it was no part of our plan that any of the property should fall into the hands of the rebels. It was a singular sight to see the big spars topple over with a crash and a creak as soon as the rigging was severed by a few blows of an axe. It is not often that persons are permitted to destroy valuable property, and feel at the same time that they are doing right." We give the writer, it will be observed, the full benefit of his appropriate comments on this ceremony; his moral obliquities decidedly entitled him to share in and sympathy with this demoniacally-conceived work; and the blenching of his naive admission "to destroy valuable property," with the ready justification of this wanton wickedness as a righteous deed, discloses a power of confounding good and evil sufficient to give him high rank in the "sensation" press of his native country.

There is a limit, however, to human wrongdoing, if not to the wicked will and thought. It is the main ship channel which will alone be blocked by this malicious contrivance, and there are happily other channels for use beside that closed, the best of them being the well-known and frequently essayed "Maffit's Channel," though only of recent discovery, and not in the United States' coast survey of 1857. This course, it is admitted by the *New York Times*, can now give safe passage to any vessel afloat.

Some sense of shame at last seems to have come over these block-heads—we cannot refrain from using a word so suitable to the "occasion"—who have advocated, encouraged, and immortalised in print the villanous institution of "the stone fleet," for in a leading article it is now announced—"The stone fleet will not thus absolutely seal up Charleston, nor will it destroy all possibility of future commercial intercourse with the outside world: it will only render the blockade practically impervious."

The magnitude of their task has, fortunately, been the means of defeating the intentions of those who contrived such an awful stretch of malice; there are, moreover, we are informed, undeniable means of clearing away these huge impediments, and probably the engineers in charge of the vast powers of moving, placing, and displacing the immense debris shaken from its seat by blasting operations in our great north-western harbour of Holyhead, may, some day or other, execute a sure plan—of course at a proportionately large expenditure of time and money—for restoring the shipway at present choked up on the coast of Charleston.—*Standard*.

The Paris *Moniteur* states that a profound feeling of regret and indignation has been excited in France by the measures taken by the Federals to destroy Charleston harbour; and it is confidently asserted that the Emperor's Government is urging that of England to join in recognising the Confederate States as under a de facto Government, and to break the blockade. This may or may not be true; but, if it is, a European war with the Federal States may be no distant eventuality after all.

### OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE ON THE TRENT AFFAIR.

THE diplomatic correspondence between the British and American Governments on the Trent affair has been published. The following are the principal points of interest contained in the documents in question:—

#### MR. SEWARD TO MR. ADAMS.

The first is a letter from Secretary Seward to Mr. Adams, the American Minister in London, dated Nov. 30, 1861. Mr. Seward, in this letter, compliments Mr. Adams for speaking and acting so wisely at the Lord Mayor's dinner, and also states that he told Lord Palmerston the simple fact when informing him that the life of the insurrection is sustained by the hopes of a recognition of the Southern Confederacy by England and France, and if those hopes ceased the insurrection would perish in ninety days. He refers in the same note to the fact of the arrest of Slidell and Mason by Captain Wilks as a new and unforeseen circumstance, which is to be met by the two Governments, if possible, in a kindly spirit. Lord Lyons had said nothing on the subject, and no explanations were furnished to Minister Adams, it being deemed prudent that the ground taken by the British Government should be first made known at Washington an discussion had there, but Mr. Seward deemed it proper to state that Captain Wilks acted without instructions, and the subject therefore was free from the embarrassments that might have ensued if the act had been specially directed. He trusts that the British Government will consider the subject in a friendly temper, and it may expect the best disposition on the part of the Washington Cabinet. This communication, which was a confidential one, though Mr. Adams was authorised to read it to Earl Russell and Lord Palmerston, has occasioned some animated discussion in the English newspapers, and considerable blame has been thrown upon the Government for not making known the conciliatory feeling of the Washington Cabinet. One portion of the press insists that its contents ought to have been made public, and so have allayed the anxiety that prevailed regarding the course the Cabinet of Washington were disposed to take on the subject of the stoppage of the Trent; while by another it is alleged that the letters not having been officially communicated to the British Government, Earl Russell was not at liberty to make any use whatever of the information it contains; that as it was written before the views of the British Government had been made known to Mr. Seward, and contained no indication of a willingness to give up the Confederate Commissioners, it afforded no grounds to judge of what the ultimate course of the American Government would be in the matter, and that, consequently, to have made public its contents would have been not only a breach of diplomatic confidence, but might have raised hopes of peace which were not destined to be realised. It is not improbable that the matter may form the theme of discussion on the assembling of Parliament.

#### EARL RUSSELL TO LORD LYONS.

The next letter is from Earl Russell to Lord Lyons, dated the 30th of November, in which he details the occurrences on board the Trent in the terms of Commander Williams's report to the Admiralty. His Lordship then goes on to say:—

It thus appears that certain individuals have been forcibly taken from a British vessel, the ship of a neutral Power on a lawful and innocent voyage—an act of violence which was an affront to the British flag and a violation of international law. Her Majesty's Government are willing to believe the act was without authority and resulted from misunderstanding, as the Government of the United States must be fully aware that the British Government will not allow such an affront to its national honour to pass without due reparation, and the British Government are unwilling to believe that the United States deliberately intended unnecessarily to force a discussion of so grave a question between the two Governments. Her Majesty's Government trusts that the Government of the United States will of its own accord offer such redress as alone could satisfy them—viz., the liberation of the four prisoners, and their delivery to Lord Lyons, that they may again be placed under British protection—and a suitable apology for the aggression committed. Should these terms not be offered by Mr. Seward, you will propose them to him.

#### MR. SEWARD TO LORD LYONS.

Mr. Seward, on December 26, writes to Lord Lyons (by whom he was furnished with a copy of Earl Russell's letter), and, after recapitulating the facts as stated by Earl Russell, goes on to make some few corrections of details in accordance with the report furnished to the Secretary of the Navy by Captain Wilks. Mr. Seward says:—

The British Government might have conjectured, what it is now my duty to state, that Captain Wilks acted upon his own suggestions of duty without any directions or instructions, or even foreknowledge of it, on the part of this Government. No directions had been given him or any other naval officer to arrest the four persons, or any of them, on the Trent, or any other British vessel, or any neutral vessel there or elsewhere.

After discussing the whole question at great length in all its bearings, in doing which he puts the following five questions, the first four of which he answers in the affirmative, or in accordance with the idea that the Americans were right in so far as these points are concerned. On the fifth question Mr. Seward considers Captain Wilks was wrong, and accordingly agreed to surrender the prisoners. Mr. Seward's questions are:—

1. Were the persons named and their supposed despatches contraband of war?
2. Might Captain Wilks lawfully stop and search the Trent for these contraband persons and despatches?
3. Did he exercise that right in a lawful and proper manner?
4. Having found the contraband persons on board and in presumed possession of the contraband despatches, had he a right to capture the persons?
5. Did he exercise that right of capture in the manner allowed and recognised by the law of nations?

Having discussed these questions, and answered them in the sense we have stated, Mr. Seward proceeds:—

I trust I have shown to the satisfaction of the British Government by a very simple and natural statement of facts and an analysis of the law applicable to them that this Government has neither meditated, nor practised, nor approved any deliberate wrong in the transaction to which they have called its attention; and, on the contrary, that what has happened has been simply an inadvertence consisting in a departure by the naval officers—free from any wrongful motive—from a rule uncertainly established, and probably by the several parties concerned either imperfectly understood or entirely unknown. For this error the British Government has a right to expect the same reparation that we, as an independent State, should expect from Great Britain or from any friendly nation in a similar case. I have not been unaware that, in examining this question, I have fallen into an argument for what seems to be the British side of it against my own country; but I am relieved from all embarrassment on that subject. I had hardly fallen into that line of argument when I discovered that I was really defending and maintaining not an exclusively British interest, but an old, honoured, and cherished American cause; not upon British authorities, but upon principles that constitute a large portion of the distinctive policy by which the United States have developed the resources of a continent; and thus, becoming a considerable maritime power, have won the respect and confidence of many nations. These principles were laid down for us by James Madison in 1804, when Secretary of State under Jefferson, in instructions to James Monroe, our then Minister to England.

Mr. Seward says, after quoting these instructions:—

If I decide this case in favour of my own Government, I must disallow its most cherished principles, and reverse and forever abandon its essential policy. The country cannot afford the sacrifice. If I maintain those principles, and adhere to that policy, I must surrender the case itself. It will be seen, therefore, that this Government could not deny the justice of the claim presented. We are asked to do to the British nation just what we have always insisted all nations ought to do to us.

In coming to my conclusion I have not forgotten that if the safety of this Union required the detention of the captured prisoners it would be the right and duty of this Government to detain them; but the official check and warning proportions of the existing insurrection, as well as the comparative unimportance of the captured persons themselves when dispassionately weighed, happily forbid me from resorting to that defence. Nor am I unaware that American citizens are not in any case to be unnecessarily surrendered for any purpose into the keeping of a foreign State.

Only the captured persons, however, or others who are interested in them, could justly raise a question on that ground.

It would tell little for our own claim to the character of a just and magnanimous people if we should so far consent to be guided by the law of retaliation as to lift up buried injuries against national consistency and national conscience.

Putting behind me all suggestions of this kind, I prefer to express my satisfaction that by the adjustment of the present case upon principles confessedly American, and yet, as I trust, mutually satisfactory to both nations concerned, a question is finally and rightly settled between them which heretofore exhausted not only all forms of peaceful discussion, but also the arbitrament of war itself for more than half a century alienated the two countries from each other, and perplexed with fears and apprehensions all other nations. The four persons in question are now held in military custody at Fort Warren, in the State of Massachusetts. They will be cheerfully liberated. Your Lordship will please indicate a time and place for receiving them.

The despatch from M. Thouvenel to M. Mercier, the French Minister at Washington, as already published, is also contained in the correspondence.

#### EARL RUSSELL TO LORD LYONS.

In a letter to Lord Lyons, dated Dec. 19, Earl Russell recounts the substance of a conversation he had had with Mr. Adams the same day. This conversation referred to various matters, among others to the Trent affair, and Mr. Seward's letter to Mr. Adams of the 20th of November, about the nonpublication of the contents of which so much discussion has taken place, was read to his Lordship. Earl Russell, after stating the views of the British Government as to the treatment of vessels belonging to the respective belligerent sections of the American republic, proceeds to deal with the Trent question. He says:—

I then stated to Mr. Adams the substance of the two despatches I had written to Lord Lyons on the subject of the Trent.

I told him that in a private letter I had directed Lord Lyons to talk the matter over with Mr. Seward two days before reading to him the despatch. Mr. Adams asked whether the direction to Lord Lyons to leave Washington in seven days was in the despatch to be read. I said it was not, and that in case Mr. Seward should ask what would be the consequences of a refusal on his part to comply with our conditions, Lord Lyons was to decline to answer that question, in order not to have the appearance of a threat. I said that I thought the explanation that the Government had not authorised the seizure would stand in the place of an apology.

But the essential condition was, that Mr. Mason and Mr. Slidell should be given up to Lord Lyons.

Mr. Adams said that if the matter was stated to Mr. Seward in the manner I had explained, he hoped for an amicable termination of the difference; he thought that if the Government of the United States insisted on maintaining the act of Captain Wilks, the United States would be abandoning their doctrine and adopting ours.

Mr. Adams asked me a further question, which he said I might decline to answer; it was whether, if Lord Lyons came away, a declaration of war would be the immediate consequence.

I told him nothing was decided on that point; we should wait for a reply from America, and then decide upon our course.

I stated to Mr. Adams the substance of M. Thouvenel's despatch to M. Mercier, as I had heard it from M. de Flahault.

Mr. Adams said that the French Government had always been very consistent in their maintenance of the rights of neutrals. He added that he could not pay our Government the same compliment.

I said I would dispense with compliments in this matter could be amicably arranged.

We parted on very friendly terms.

The concluding document of the series is a letter from Earl Russell to Lord Lyons, dated Jan. 11, in reply to one from the latter noble Lord, communicating the agreeable information that the requisitions of the British Government would be complied with. The following extracts are all that it is necessary to give, but we may remark that the whole correspondence on the part of his Lordship is characterised by the utmost courtesy and consideration towards the Washington Cabinet:—

Her Majesty's Government having carefully taken into consideration the liberation of the prisoners, the delivery of them into your hands, and the explanations to which I have just referred, have arrived at the conclusion that they constitute the reparation which her Majesty and the British nation had a right to expect.

It gives her Majesty's Government great satisfaction to be enabled to

arrive at a conclusion favourable to the maintenance of the most friendly relations between the two nations. I need not discuss the modifications of my statement of facts, which Mr. Seward says he has derived from the reports of officers of his Government.

I cannot conclude, however, without advertent shortly to the discussions which Mr. Seward has raised upon points not prominently brought into question in my despatch of the 30th of November. I there objected, on the part of her Majesty's Government, to that which Captain Wilks had done. Mr. Seward, in his answer, points out what he conceives Captain Wilks might have done without violating the law of nations.

It is not necessary that I should here discuss in detail the five questions ably argued by the Secretary of State; but it is necessary that I should say that her Majesty's Government differ from Mr. Seward in some of the conclusions at which he has arrived. And it may lead to a better understanding between the two nations on several points of international law which may, during the present contest or at some future time, be brought into question, that I should state to you, for communication to the Secretary of State, wherein those differences consist. I hope to do so in a few days.

In the meantime, it will be desirable that the commanders of the United States' cruisers should be instructed not to repeat acts for which the British Government will have to ask for redress, and which the United States' Government cannot undertake to justify.

**EXPORT OF COTTON TO AMERICA.**—The export of cotton from Liverpool to America still continues, and at present there are three steamers taking in entire cargoes of cotton, whilst numerous sailing-vessels are also taking on board quantities of the same article. The Inman line of New York steamers, on account of their carrying capacities and sailing qualities, have been especially patronised by the shippers of cotton to New York, as the quick transit of this article across the Atlantic is the chief desideratum. The screw-steamer Glasgow, of the above line, last week carried out to New York about 2000 bales. On looking over the different shipments of cotton to America since the 1st of December last up to Jan. 11 we find that the total amount exported has been 14,479 bales, while the quantity of American cotton now at sea en route to Liverpool is 65 bales, against 280,940 bales at the same time last year. Of Surats there are 95,300 bales at sea, against 61,731 bales last year.

**AN INCIDENT OF CIVIL WAR.**—Just before the war broke out a young Virginian, named Summerfield, was visiting the city of New York, where he made the acquaintance of the two Misses Holmes, of Waterbury, Vermont. He became somewhat intimate with the young ladies, and the intercourse seemed to be mutually agreeable. The President's proclamation was issued, and the whole North thrown into a blaze of excitement. On visiting the ladies one evening, at the hour of parting, they remarked to Summerfield that their present meeting would probably be the last; they must hurry home to aid in making up the overcoats and clothing for the volunteers from their town. Summerfield expressed his regret that they must leave, but at the same time especially requested them to see that the overcoats were well made, as it was his intention, if he ever met the Vermont regiment in battle, to kill one of them and take his coat. Virginia seceded. The 2nd Vermont Regiment, a portion of which was from the town of Waterbury, was sent to Virginia. The battle of Manassas was fought, in which they were engaged, and so was Summerfield. During the battle Summerfield marked his man, not knowing to what State he belonged; the fatal ball was sped upon its errand of death; the victim fell, and, upon rushing up to secure the dead man's arms, Summerfield observed that he had a fine new overcoat strapped to his back, which he determined to appropriate to his own use. The fight was over, and Summerfield had time to examine his prize, when the coat was marked with the name of Thomas Holmes, and in the pockets were found letters signed with the names of the sisters whom Summerfield had known in New York, and to whom he had made the remark we have quoted, in which the dead man was addressed as brother. The evidence was conclusive—he had killed the brother of his friends, and the remark which he had made in jest had a melancholy fulfilment.

**AMERICAN JOBBERY.**—It appears from the report of the committee of investigation appointed by Congress, on the motion of Mr. Van Wyck, that "there has been a startling amount of corruption," especially among the contractors appointed by the departments of War and the Navy. One old vessel that originally cost 36,000 dollars, was sold to the Government, through political influence, for 55,000 dollars; and the State possessed itself of scores of ships worthless or not, at similarly enhanced rates. The sum of 2,000,000 dollars was disbursed, or supposed to be disbursed, by the same parties for army supplies, for which sum they are unable to produce receipts or vouchers. Large quantities of linen pantaloons and straw hats, not required by the army or ordered by the military authorities, were purchased by the Government to please or pacify its supporters at prices greatly beyond the market value. Twenty-five thousand Austrian muskets, rejected by the Austrian Government and sold for a mere trifle as old stores, were bought in one lot for the army of General Fremont, for 166,000 dollars. These muskets were found to be useless without alteration that would cost as much more, and even in that case they may be found less serviceable than new muskets of approved construction that would cost but half the money. A lot of 5400 of Hull's carbines was sold by the War Department, by private contract, at the rate of 3 dollars. 50 cents each to an acute contractor, who resold them to the Government, through the agency of a third party, for 22 dollars each. These are but isolated specimens of a wholesale corruption, of which the topping flowers only have been brought under the scythe the leaving a large undergrowth unnoticed though not unknown.

**IRISH LOYALTY IN CANADA.**—At a meeting held lately at Montreal, exclusively composed of Irish Roman Catholics, Mr. Thomas D'Arcy McGee, one of the Irish political exiles of 1848, spoke as follows:—"I learn from New York and Boston, in both of which cities there reside vast numbers of my original countrymen, that the impression prevails there, not only with them, but with the Americans generally, that the Irish inhabitants of Canada are largely disaffected to the Government under which they live. Though this is an error of fact absolutely groundless, yet, lest it should be made a means of misleading any one into an expedition against Canada—if, unfortunately, it should come to that—I feel bound, at the very first proper moment, to refute and repel it. This I should do most emphatically if I spoke at your festival on Monday night. I declare, then, most absolutely—and it is well the assailants of Canada should know the fact in time—that the Irish inhabitants of this province will be found embattled as one man in the defence of the Canadian Constitution and the Imperial connection. There is hardly a group of Irish settlers in Upper or Lower Canada that I have not personally visited during the last four or five years. There is not a man of note among them, laymen or clerics, that I have not met, and I declare that I have yet to meet the first man of all those bodies and orders of men who does not frankly and loyally prefer our own Canadian institutions to those of the United States. Formerly, I believe, it was different with many among them (as I own it was some years ago with myself), but since the era of the "Know-nothing" movement the last vestige of political preference for the United States has disappeared among the Irish here. There is a keen and exquisitely painful sense that a war on our frontier with the Northern States would be for the Irish, in truth, a fratricidal war; but, for all this, no Irishman in Canada will hold back from the defence of his own soil; and if other Irishmen, misled by false reports of our discontent, should come here as invaders, their blood be upon their own heads, not on ours."

**THE POPULATION OF FRANCE.**—The last Census, that of 1856, gave as the population of the then eighty-six departments, 36,039,364. On the 1st of January, 1862, the population of eighty-nine departments amounted to 37,382,225 inhabitants, showing an increase of 1,342,861 from 1856 to the close of 1861. But to appreciate correctly the progress of the population we must deduct from that increase the inhabitants of the territories recently annexed to the Empire, such as the Savoy districts. These populations amount to 669,059 inhabitants. The effective increase of population, therefore, when compared with the last census, is 673,802. M. de Persigny declares the result satisfactory when compared with the results of the two preceding quinquennial periods. The increase shown by the present census nearly doubles that of either of the preceding periods. The troops which on the 15th of May, 1861, were employed in Algeria, Syria, and Rome, are not included in the present Census.

**TOM SAYERS.**—This once-popular champion of the P.R. seems to be particularly unfortunate in coming into collision with municipal authorities since he left the roped arena for that of the circus. In Liverpool during the last few days some excitement has been caused owing to the authorities refusing to allow Sayers to erect his circus in Dale-street after he had made arrangements for doing so with the secretary of the proposed hotel company and had actually gone to the expense of about £300 in clearing the ground, &c. It appears that the hotel company had agreed to purchase the ground from the Corporation, but had not paid up the whole of the deposit due; consequently the police and other corporation officers would not let Sayers stay on the ground. Tom tried to persuade the Mayor and Town-clerk to alter their decision, but they refused to do so, offering, however, a site in the West Derby-road, which is rather an out-of-the-way place. This is the second time Sayers has been interfered with in his circus, as it may be remembered the Oxford college authorities refused to let the students patronise him owing to his having inadvertently forgotten to ask their permission to erect his circus.

**FIREARMS FROM LIKKE.**—The export of firearms from Liège acquired last year considerable development. During the first eleven months of 1861 the value amounted to 15,638,000fr., whilst during the whole of 1860 it was only 12,000,000fr., and in 1859 10,000,000fr. The amount of the arms exported may be thus divided:—France, 7,500,000fr.; England, 2,373,000fr.; Zollverein, 2,733,000fr.; Holland, 818,000fr.; Hanse Towns, 510,000fr.; Brazil, 486,000fr.; Italy, 308,000fr.; and United States, 175,000fr.

## Literature.

### BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG.

*Kingston's Annual for Boys.* 1862. W. Kent and Co.

*My Travels in Many Lands.* Narrated for my Young Friends. By W. H. G. KINGSTON.

*Jack Manly: His Adventures by Sea and Land.* By JAMES GRANT. Routledge and Co.

*Eldon Manor. A Tale for Girls.* By the Author of "The Maze of Life." Routledge and Co.

*How to Make the Best of It.* A Domestic Tale for Young Ladies. By ANN BOWMAN. Routledge and Co.

*Through Life and for Life.* A Story of Discipline. By D. RICHMOND. Routledge and Co.

The study of youthful literature is not childish. After something more than a "sly glance" at the half dozen handsome volumes named above, it is possible to give a fair insight into the literary and domestic taste of the rising generation—girls as well as boys—and ascertain their probable effects during the ensuing decade. Taken literally—the examples in literature being taken as the rule of life—the girls would be wild and wilful, but speedily softened into holy serenity by the chastening influences of sudden poverty and galloping consumption. But, happily, long before the expiration of the "teens," young people discover that story-books are not to be taken literally, but as beacons and buoys to guide them to a safe passage. The boys, on the other hand, would be fighting four bears at a time all their lives, unless, indeed, they were playing sailors' pranks at the Court of Dahomey, eating raw Chinamen, practising crocodile equestrianism across the desert, or the thousand and one exciting dangers invented for boys by writers of the Grant, Kingston, and Mayne Reid school.

Mr. W. H. G. Kingston is as happy as usual this year. The "Annual" remains a great success, and is filled with amusing and interesting variety. The chapter called "Dick Onslow's Adventures in the Far West" is replete with that facility for falling into dangerous scrapes and capacity for coolness amidst unheard-of horrors which distinguishes the invariable hero of this kind of story. It is all about bears, imprisonment amongst ice and snow, and many of those vicissitudes of North American life which distinguish the pages of Washington Irving's "Astoria" the only difference being that Mr. Kingston has a knack of looking at all dangerous adventures through a powerful magnifying-glass. Not less exciting is the "Three Midshipmen in China;" and papers on "Natural History," "Holiday Advice," &c., are well written, and complete a portly illustrated volume. Mr. Kingston's own "Travels in Many Lands" is a work of a totally different class. The romantic tone is quite dropped, and in its place, an agreeable narrative of tours in Portugal, France, and Italy is given, together with some slight flashes of English scenery. The travels appeared to have commenced during the earlier years of the century, and, we fancy, have literary freshness only from having been altered or corrected "up to the present time." But of course they can but be fresh to the "young friends."

Mr. Grant's "Jack Manly" possesses all the qualities already alluded to in perfection. The young autobiographer goes to sea with a friend, a young seal-catching merchant captain, because he cannot bear the rummy of his father's partner in the dullness of a Newfoundland counting-house. In a week they are up to the hilt in dangers. There are seal slaughters, sealhorse fights, an engagement with a slaver, whom they ultimately burn; dangerous perils and miraculous escapes (capitally described) amongst the icebergs; then a total wreck, and a boat-scene resembling the second canto of "Don Juan." Next a landing in Africa, describing the shocking barbarities of the King of Snake River, which would conclude with being buried alive, only that the two heroes contrive to escape and reach an English man-of-war in the bay. In "Jack Manly" bears, lions, and tigers figure as principal characters of the drama to an extent hitherto unattempted. It is one of the most exciting and graphically-written books of its kind; but the evident exaggeration throughout gives it a dangerous vitality and causes it to miss that air of truth which characterises the travel-romances of Defoe, and, in later times, "The Voyages, Adventures, and Escapes of Captain Richard Falconer."

For girls and young ladies (the titlepages draw the distinction) the three remaining stories on our list are to be highly recommended. For girls there is "Eldon Manor," a story almost without a story, but full of character and the best possible teaching. The girls are remarkably wilful; the young son wilful also, but generous. They have a good but weak mother and an ineffective governess, and therefore the scene of confusion and disagreement can only be satisfactorily smoothed by the timely arrival from the Continent of the eldest son, who brings with him a perfect angel of a young wife. But still complete reformation is not effected before one of the girls is nearly dead of a fever contracted whilst playing off a midnight, al-fresco ghost-prank upon a weakheaded servant-girl.

"How to Make the Best of It" is, indeed, for "young ladies." The two Misses Chilton are thoroughly spoiled by a stepmother, originally in the humble position of their governess. The father is ruined and dies, and the family, wrecked on the Yorkshire coast, insensibly learn to be useful people and forget the folly of their earlier ways. The Yorkshire characters and customs, all honest and genuine, and without the least touch of the "genteel," are excellently described, although we doubt the propriety of writing so much of a book in so harsh a dialect. It is well calculated to amuse, interest, and instruct; and not the least good service that it will do will be to carry off that young-ladyism so inseparable from the boarding-school miss.

It is unfortunate that Mr. D. Richmond should follow up an absurd system of morality which has found its high priest in the "Late Physician," who forgot to take his "diary" with him when he died. Speedy punishment is the human, not the Divine, system; and for writers to pretend that venial transgressions and neglects are immediately followed by a cold, a consumption, and a coffin is to appear ridiculous to men and women, and either prosy or terrifying to boys and girls. And Mr. Richmond, furthermore, makes his unfortunates talk a kind of piety which defeats its object: literally, that slang of piety which sensible people pity when they hear it from the ignorant lower classes of every possible creed. It will scarcely be believed that the heroine of "Through Life and for Life" dies of consumption at an early age, because she once wore some artificial rosebuds in her bonnet, after her mother had said that her station in life did not warrant indulgence in such luxuries! That is the only objection that can possibly be made to the book. It has a story which is really interesting, and is always written with vigorous ability, whilst many passages are given with truthful effect. Especially we would mention the incidents of the stolen sovereign and the volunteer ball. In the face of so much excellence, it may appear unkind to mention a defect; but it is necessary that young readers should be reminded that there are at least two sides to every view of life.

### NURSERY NOVELTIES.

Messrs. Dean and Son, of Ludgate-hill, have just prepared a series of works in art and literature combined which fairly surpass anything of the kind hitherto attempted. Clever cardboard machinery, also enlisted into the juvenile service, is made to play a conspicuous part. There is a "Royal Acting Punch and Judy" on a godly scale, in which by merely moving a slip of cardboard to and fro all the full effect of Mr. Punch's wonderful atrocities are produced with astonishing success. Pantomimic tricks, the clown, &c., are also given on the same plan, under the title of "Dissolving Views;" and there is likewise a series representing the "Galante Show," that humorous shadow performance to be seen in the streets

at nights, and illustrating "The bridge is broke and I must mend it." These clever mechanical tricks, or books, must be seen to be understood, and there is no doubt of their pleasing. "Bessie and Jessie's Second Book" advances those young ladies to words of not more than six letters, all in fine bold type, and adorned with coloured pictures. "Tommy Trot and his Loves" are some absurd pictures which become quite natural when seen at an angle through glass; and "Walter Wonderment's Wonderful Treble Changes" is another collection of simple magical effects.

Messrs. Dean have also issued a capital "Alphabet of Beasts," a "Gem A B C," and a version, actually with music, of the famous story "The Three Blind Mice." These will doubtless occasion a noisy reception in every nursery, the very place where good spirits and laughter are of the utmost importance, and should ever be met at home.

"Merry Tales of the Olden Time," a volume of "Dean's Little Library," contains all kinds of amusing literature. There is much of the Red Ridinghood character and also Cock Robin, whilst the Children in the Wood are not forgotten, and many favourite stories from the Arabian Nights are given in an easy style.

"A Little Book," by the author of "Adventures of a Sunbeam," is an offshoot from the same collection; being, in fact, the more juvenile pieces, not considered of sufficient dignity to go with the former volume. Former purchasers will be glad to have the present "Little Book," which (as we understand) is to be obtained of Mr. Nicholas, 29, Poultry, secretary for the Charitable "Earlwood Society."

### THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

THE connection of the Channel Islands with England dates from the time of William VII., Duke of Normandy and first King of England of that name, who in 1067 annexed them to his new kingdom. On his death they for a short time reverted to France; but in the reign of Henry I. they were reunited to the English Crown, to which, up to the present day, through almost every kind of political vicissitude, they have continued attached. Indeed, one of the most striking features in their history is the remarkable loyalty which through the course of several centuries, has been displayed by their inhabitants, and the constancy with which they have adhered to their original Dukes. Notwithstanding "the sea of troubles" through which they have from time to time had to wade, in endeavouring to repel or in being forced to submit, for a while, to French invasion, they have always remained faithful. They have won the "golden opinions" of their rulers, and have, in various periods of their history, been dealt with accordingly. Within an easy distance of the coast of France, they have necessarily been an object of temptation to the ambition of several of the Sovereigns of that country; but the vigilance with which they have been watched by the English, coupled with the fidelity of their populations themselves, have proved quite equal to the task of their preservation. That they may continue to be with greater certainty preserved, their fortifications are being extended as well as strengthened with all the modern improvements, and a considerable sum of money is being expended upon them for the purpose of giving greater security to their possession against any "cloud of winter showers" that may be threatening to descend upon them. Accordingly, Cornet Castle, one of the most prominent features in the two accompanying Engravings, is necessarily the first object for defensive consideration in connection with St. Peter's Town and the port in the island of Guernsey. The origin of this fort is assigned to the days of Henry II. of England, and, although certain deenes of Guernsey were in existence before then, that Monarch caused them to be improved, and built a fortress on a small island called "Cornet," close to the harbour of St. Peter. This was the origin of the castle which still retains its original name, and which on approaching the harbour seems "rising from the sea" to defend the town, from which it is distant about half a mile. Its chronicles are replete with legendary story as well as historical event. Into the details of these, however, we cannot here largely enter; but, in reference to the "island rock" on which it stands, tradition says it was first fortified in 1115. This, however, has been doubted; but there is no existing record either to confirm or disprove the fact. The earliest notice of the castle under the name of Cornet occurs in the reign of Edward III., although in the reign of Edward I. there existed an order dated from Windsor in 1275 authorising the collection of certain dues on shipping, if a quay or pier were constructed "between our castle here and our town of the Port of St. Peter."

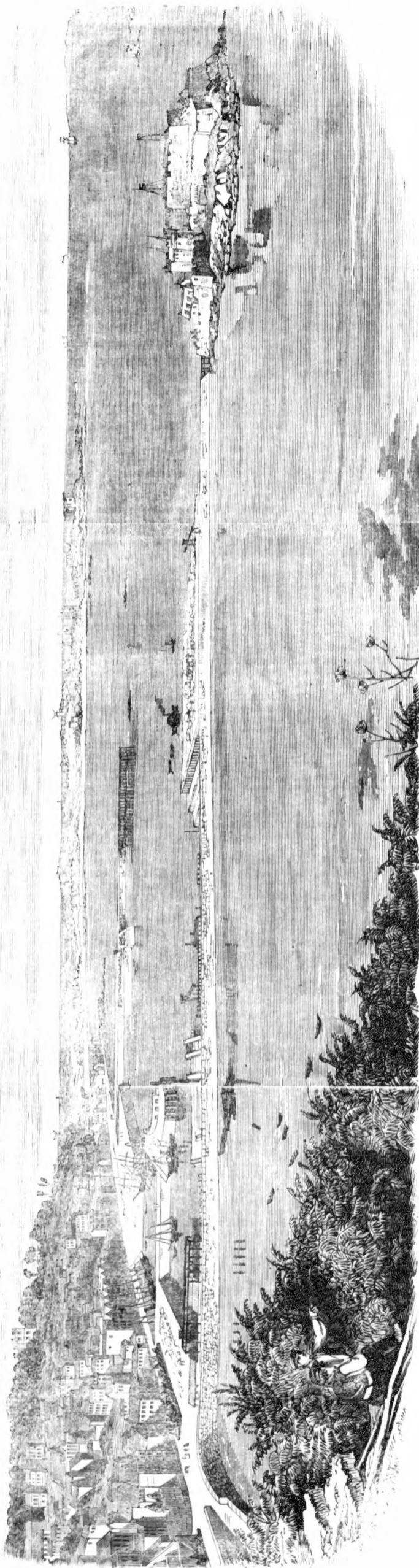
Down to the time of Queen Elizabeth the strength of this castle was frequently tested by the French; and in the reign of that Sovereign it was again fortified and the harbour improved. During the Commonwealth war Guernsey sided with the Parliament, but the governor of the castle, remaining faithful to the King, alarmed the inhabitants of the neighbouring town by scattering his shot in no very gentle spirit among them. During nine years this castle held out against the Parliament, but at last it was forced to succumb to a fleet of eighty sail, commanded by the redoubtable Admiral Blake. About twelve years after the Restoration it was blown up by the ignition of its store of gunpowder by lightning, and from that time it has ceased to be a residence of the governors of the island, although it was soon restored to its former strength and security. Since that period the islanders have repeatedly suffered by French invasion and in 1803, under the lieutenant governorship of Sir John Doyle, the island was put into what was then considered a complete state of defence. Two years afterwards its garrisons were again greatly augmented and large barracks erected, with martello towers, to protect the different landing-places.

Castle Cornet is now joined by a causeway with the harbour of St. Peter's Port, and is capable of mounting upwards of fifty guns; has both infantry and artillery barracks, extensive magazines and storehouses, a spring of good fresh water, furnaces for red-hot shot, and bombproof apartments for the protection of its soldiery. In connection with Fort George, which crowns a hill towards the south, the harbour is completely commanded; and, this being the only available place of landing, the island may now be said to be impregnable. The new harbour is commanded by a strongly-constructed new fort, that supplies the place of the old one, which was of great strength, and is capable of giving shelter in stress of weather to vessels of 700 or 800 tons, and to the number of a hundred sail. Its first stone was laid on the 24th of August, 1853, the anniversary of the visit of her Majesty Queen Victoria to the island, in 1846.

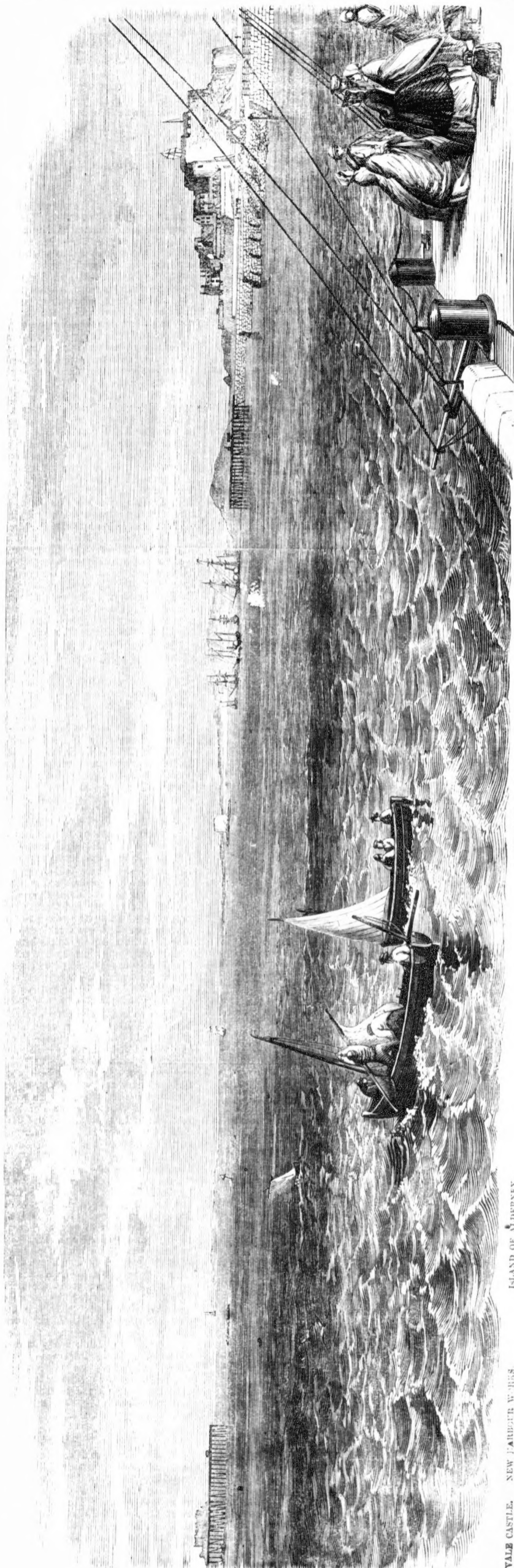
Vale Castle, on the north, overlooks the harbour of St. Sampson, and has had its interior fitted up as a barracks. From a seawall, which runs along the shore leading to this castle a magnificent view is obtained. It embraces the islands of Herm, Jethou, with Sark in the distance; Castle Cornet, encompassed by the sea; and the town of St. Peter's, with its smiling uplands. The island of Alderney, slightly indicated in one of our Engravings, was in 1851 visited by her Majesty, who is the first Sovereign that ever set foot on its soil.

The town fronting the harbour lies partly in a vale, which leads up to several narrow valleys to the westward. The hills rising over it are now covered with gardens, buildings, and spires. Though not separated by any boundaries, the town may properly be divided into old and new—the former comprising the more antiquated houses which surround the parish church, and the latter covering the vicinity in every direction and in every variety of form.

Viewing the Channel Islands from the French coast, the genius of Napoleon I. at a glance comprehended the advantages of their possession, and he called them "the stepping-stones" to England. The truth, as well, perhaps, as the singularity, of this remark have not been lost upon the various British Ministries who have since his time held the reins of government; and now, more than ever, they have become objects of political care.



ST. PETER'S PORT, GUERNSEY, SHOWING THE NEW HARBOUR AND FORTIFICATIONS — SKETCHED FROM THE HOUSE OF ST. JOHN.



THE NEW HARBOUR AND FORTIFICATIONS OF ST. PETER'S PORT, GUERNSEY. — (SKETCHED FROM THE NEW LANDING-PLACE.)

VALE CASTLE. NEW JARRET WORKS. ISLAND OF ALDERNEY.

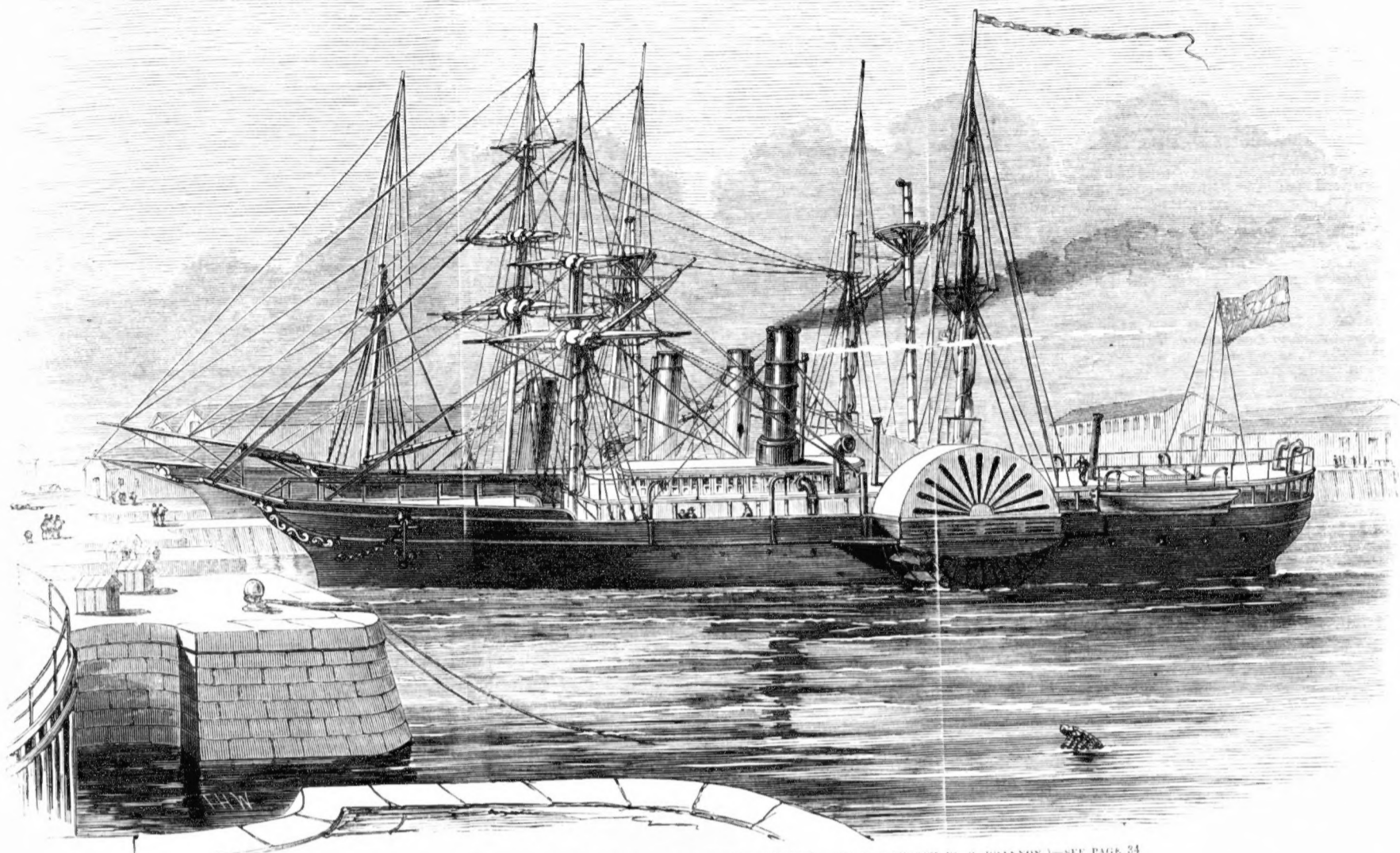
NEW PORT.

ISLAND

HERN

ISLAND OF SARR.

CORNET CASTLE.



THE CONFEDERATE STEAMER NASHVILLE IN THE DOCKS, SOUTHAMITON — (FROM A SKETCH BY P. DIANSON.) — SEE PAGE 24



A FAMILY PARTY FOR THE PANTOMIME.

### "GOING TO THE PLAY."

WHICH of us can recall the sensations of our first visit to the theatre? Of course it was at Christmas-tide, when the pantomime was in all the glory of fresh paint and new dresses, and preceded by ravishing scenery. Was Clown an ordinary moral then, whose jokes were liable to worldly criticism? Did there ever enter into our heads a suspicion that Columbine had that afternoon dined off a pork chop, and was the mother of a small family some of whom were then waiting at the wings? It may be doubted whether children of the present day are so entirely oblivious of matter-of-fact as to be carried away by the marvels even of modern extravaganzas and all its fairy glades, moonlight caves, or magic trees. The cynical indifference of the age has perhaps thrown something of its blighting influence over the young visitors, and the big box full of rosy faces may ring with laughter less hearty, delight less uncontrolled, than formerly. At all events, the occasion is a great one, and a flutter of anxiety pervades the entire nursery. Such a pinning, and tying, and brushing, and curling is there, that nothing but the patience attained by maturity and the fact of having seen the show so often that it has become a somewhat sorry spectacle could keep papa in good humour. Well, we live again in our children, thank Heaven; and as he sits well back in the family box and looks at the bright eyes and glowing faces of his little ones even the comicality of the pantomime, the clown's lugubrious fun, may serve to stir within paterfamilias happy memories, and still more happy realisations.

#### TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

STAMPED EDITION, TO GO FREE BY POST.  
3 months, 3s. 10d.; 6 months, 7s. 8d.; 12 months, 15s. 2s.  
Subscriptions to be by P.O. order, payable to THOMAS FOX, 2, Catherine-street, Strand.  
It is necessary that Four Stamps be forwarded with all applications to the Publisher of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES for single copies of the Paper. For two Copies SEVEN Stamps will be sufficient.

#### THE TITLEPAGE AND INDEX

to Vol. XIII of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES will be issued next week.

## ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 1862.

### THE POOR AND THE POOR LAWS.

THE test of the liberality, justice, charity, or generosity of individuals is to be found less in their comportment towards their friends, their enemies, or their rivals, than in their conduct towards their dependents and subalterns. So it is with States, which may respect, for political reasons, the rights of members able to vindicate themselves and the community in cases of gross infraction of liberty or right, but which may, nevertheless, to their own disgrace, suffer ignominy, tyranny, and wrong to be heaped upon the heads of the helpless, the poor, and the destitute.

There is seldom a week passes but some dismal fact stands forth as the most emphatic and unimpeachable of protests against the English poor-law system. Now, two of our most popular public men behold during a night ramble the shivering, starving poor, crouched in the wintry air beneath the unsheltering walls of the London workhouses; again the nation is shocked to hear of female adult paupers flogged like hounds at Marylebone; again a cry is raised from honest mechanics skilled in the lighter and more delicate branches of industry, but reduced by sudden pressure, refused food except in return for labour destructive of the finer organism of manipulation. Next, a poor, aged man hangs himself from sheer dread of the union; then a vagrant starves to death voluntarily rather than encounter its miseries; and at another time a woman drowns her child and compasses suicide as a less wretched alternative than that of "relief." It may be said that these are cases extending over a long period, and we admit these special instances may so be; but, although these suggest themselves on a distant retrospect, the view back from the present day is of the same character. Thus, taking the last few weeks, we have an insolent rebuke by a board of guardians to a benevolent clergyman who, after vainly seeking an interview with an authorised officer, took upon himself to order a coffin for the body of a girl who had died of malignant typhus, whose unburied remains would, but for his assistance, have remained to pollute the air of the one miserable room in which a whole family were still dragging out so much as was left them of life. We have the terrible revelations of Miss Cobbe, daughter of the Dean of Bristol, whose recently-published work, "The Workhouse as an Hospital," exhibits scenes of horror as terrible as those revealed by Mr. Gladstone of Neapolitan prisons under the Bourbons. We have a sketch, printed in a contemporary only last week, from the pen of a pauper of Newington, the details of whose experiences are far too shocking and repulsive for columns in which it is the rule to sacrifice even philanthropic considerations to the requirements of family reading. We have, moreover, the case of an infant dragged from its mother's breast by the inhuman regulations of the workhouse, and killed by being dashed upon the ground by a pauper official nurse, while its mother, its natural guardian, was in the same house, and permitted only occasionally even to see her child.

For not only such intermittent brutalities as these, but for the constant hard usage, restriction, and worse than gaol diet of the pauper, the excuse is that put forth upon the establishment of the present system—that it is necessary to guard against rendering the unions mere refuges for the reckless, the improvident, and the idle. We are willing to admit this plea to its full extent, and would be content to see the able-bodied adult pauper who would be satisfied to vegetate uselessly within the walls of the union treated as he deserves to be, which could scarcely make his state worse than at present.

But how can such a defence justify the union system in its hard-hips upon the infant, the imbecile, and the superannuated, who, having already devoted their health and strength to honest labour, find themselves compelled by misfortune to seek the dreary asylum?

What is wanted, and what would be in fact, but common justice, is a classification of paupers. Those deprived by inevitable misfortune, illness, deformity, or calamity, of the means of self-support, ought not to be treated in the same style as the lazy outcasts who regard the Union as a comfortable exchange for destitution in the street. The children, too, should be not, as now, trained for paupers in their turn, but educated into a fair chance of usefulness and independence. The pretence of educating pauper girls for domestic servants, in combination with the senseless system of sending them out as such with the pauper brand of closely-cropped hair, is a cruel mockery. The guardians of these poor wretches know as well as anyone can tell them that this stigma utterly destroys any chance of their being received into any household of decent maintenance, and that their being received into others must, in nine cases out of ten, ruin them for any service but that of the lowest menial throughout their lives.

The poor laws as at present in force have now had a fair trial. It would be as vain to deny that they embody much that it is excellent in principle as to attempt to maintain that their administration does not loudly demand extensive and searching reform. Nay, more, even upon the plea of economy such reform is, to say the least, advisable. Why should not the unfortunate pauper be occasionally allowed leave of absence, when opportunity may offer, for a limited period, during which he might find, or be provided with, means of support elsewhere? How is it that in our hospitals, supported entirely by the voluntary contributions of the benevolent, the unfortunate meet with a kindly care and consideration and a judicious treatment of their affliction, while in the Unions, which can enforce their expenses from the uncharitable as well as from the generous, the great object appears to be to render the inmates more wretched than those of a gaol? Such questions, and many of a like character, which cannot but occur to all who have witnessed the working of our own "peculiar domestic institution," are of something more than mere political interest. There are few of us placed so far beyond the reach of misfortune, of accident, or of the ordinary reverses of human life, as to live in serene certainty that the pauper's doom may not some day be that of ourselves or of others dear to us, and that the measure we have meted may not be meted unto us again.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SPEECHES.

##### MR. GILPIN AND LORD HENLEY AT NORTHAMPTON.

The members for Northampton met their constituents on Monday and delivered speeches—Mr. Gilpin mainly on recession and Lord Henley on the Trent question. Mr. Gilpin, however, referring to that question, expressed his opinion that the conduct of the British Government had been fair, considerate—nay, even delicate. Mr. Gilpin dwelt much on slavery. There was a complaint—and to some extent it was a just complaint—that English people showed little sympathy with the efforts of the North. He would tell them why, for the moment, that was apparently true. It was because the North had not identified themselves with that first principle of their great Constitution—viz., that all men are born free and equal. It was because the English people, looking at the whole matter from a practical point of view, did not see, and could not see, that the contest was for liberty against slavery, but rather that it was one to bring back States which did not want to be brought back into a union which they professed to abhor. Mr. Gilpin argued against the recognition of the Confederates. Lord Henley said nothing had satisfied his mind upon the rights of this question so much as the excuse which Commodore Wilks had tried to set up for his conduct. It appeared to him to be remarkably lame and exceedingly weak that a man who was a naval commander should search legal authorities, and, failing in finding a precedent quite equal to his case, jump over a vast chasm and take the men instead of the documents.

##### MR. LEATHAM AT HUDDERSFIELD.

On Tuesday evening Mr. E. A. Leatham addressed his constituents at Huddersfield. The hon. gentleman's speech mainly consisted of a discussion of our relations to America, and especially as exhibited in the late affair of the Trent. On this subject Mr. Leatham said:—"Surely this was a question full enough of difficulty and danger, without our endeavouring to import into it every element of passion, prejudice, and pride. Surely it was far too grave a question to be approached with flippancy, or to be dismissed with bombastic gasconade. What is the significance of a war with America? I put on one side all the heart-breaking and desolation, all the squandering of hard-earned treasure, and the spilling of priceless blood. I put on one side all considerations of the gigantic sacrifice which is involved in the fall of commerce and the prostration of industry, while at the same moment a new and crushing burden descends upon the shoulders of a people who we all know are heavily enough taxed and burdened already. I put on one side, too, the shock which civilisation must have sustained from a war which might have embittered, perhaps for ages, the relations of the two great countries to whom, above all others, would seem to be confided the hopeful future of the human race. I put on one side, too, the blow which must have been inflicted on liberty if the two great nations who alone of the great nations of the earth are free, and to whom every outraged nationality and every king-ridden and priest-ridden people is looking for succour and sympathy—if these two great and free nations had devoted to purposes of mutual destruction those vast energies and resources which were given them for the assertion of great principles, for the maintenance of a high policy, and for the emulation and admiration of mankind. War is at all times full of horrors. It is at best but the most startling measure of the iniquity and of the misery of man. But what must be the guilt and shame of that war in which, although you reddens a land with carnage, no drop of alien blood is spilled? The people whom some of us were so eager to fight are not only a part of ourselves, but they are at this moment struggling with a rampant and formidable rebel. Surely it was not because they were feeble and tormented by revolution? At some of us promised to ourselves a cheap triumph! Is such a consideration worthy of a great nation? Should we have consulted our reputation, should we have illustrated our chivalry, if we had shown any great promptitude to kick a man who is already down? Would it have looked so well in history that at the time when this unhappy civil war in America was every day tending more and more to become a war of abolition, Great Britain, the liberator of the slave, stepped in, and, siding with the infamous cause of the South, with all the skill, courage, and energy with which centuries of freedom have endowed her, rivetted, perhaps for ever, the fetters of the slave?"

##### THE HOP DUTIES.

A meeting of the Kentish hopgrowers was held at Cranbrook on Wednesday—Mr. Gathorne Hardy, M.P., in the chair. There were also present Lord Holmesdale, M.P.; Mr. Beresford Hope; Mr. Dodson, M.P.; Lord Robert Cecil, M.P.; and several other influential gentlemen hop-planters in the county. The chairman emphatically stated that by the new fiscal arrangements of Mr. Gladstone the foreign hopgrower was protected at the expense of the home planter. For his part, he saw nothing for it but to ask Parliament to abolish all artificial restrictions both on home and foreign hops, and leave the planters to contend only with the obstacles of nature. These sentiments were loudly cheered by the meeting, and resolutions in accordance with them were unanimously adopted. The other public utterances of the week have not been of marked importance.

### SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE CONSORT left a will by which he bequeaths Balmoral, which was his own property, to her Majesty.

OUR PRINCESS ROYAL has addressed a graceful and feeling reply to the Council and magistrates of Berlin who presented her with an address of condolence upon the death of Prince Albert.

AN ORDER IN COUNCIL directs that in all the prayers, litany, and collects for the Royal family the words "Albert Edward, Prince of Wales," be inserted instead of the words "Albert, Prince of Wales."

ADVICES FROM VIENNA state that the ex-Emperor Ferdinand of Austria intends to reside in Italy next summer, and has bought for that purpose the splendid domain of Galliera, near Bassano.

MR. ROBERT BROWNING, we hear, will henceforth reside in England.

EARL PORTER has given £500 to found a scholarship to be competed for yearly by the pupils of the Devon County School, West Buckland, and any other schools that may be established in connection with it.

THE DUKE OF DEVONSHIRE was yesterday formally inaugurated as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge at Devonshire House, London.

THE MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER has announced his intention of placing, in the hands of trustees the sum of £5000, the interest of which shall be given to the Scripture Readers' Friendly Society for the purpose of providing pensions of £36 per annum for Scripture readers when incapacitated for further duty by reason of old age, sickness, or infirmity.

THE MASTER OF THE MINT is appointing local receivers of the old copper coinage, whose duty it is to give new coin in exchange for old.

SIR GEORGE CLERKE will, we believe, be Provisional Governor-General of India in the interval between the departure of Lord Canning and the arrival of Lord Elgin.

IT IS REPORTED that the Grand Duke of Baden has determined to abolish the gaming-tables in his dominions, and that a bill on the subject will be presented at the next Session of the Baden Parliament.

THE BATCH OF SAILING MEN-OF-WAR, which were lately put up for sale by orders of the Board of Admiralty, realised nearly £18,000.

A UKASE OF THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA has abolished the preventive censorship of the press in Finland.

MDME. RISTORI, according to the St. Petersburg papers, is acting her principal characters in that city with very great success. His Imperial Majesty and other members of the family honoured her by a visit in her *loge* after her first performance.

A SUIT has been instituted in the Court of Arches against the Rev. Henry Bristow Wilson, Vicar of Great Staughton, in the county of Huntingdon, in the diocese of Ely, the author of the article in the volume well known as "Essays and Reviews" entitled "Séances Historiques de Gêrêre—The National Church."

TWO STEAMERS in the Hudson River, proceeding to Albany, were frozen up in the night on their passage from New York.

THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT lately instituted judicial proceedings against M. Albama and M. Matamoros, accused of preaching Protestant worship and of hawking about and distributing the Bible. Both of them have been condemned to seven years' confinement in the galleys.

THE MONEY-ORDER SYSTEM is to be extended, on the 1st of February, to Victoria and Western Australia. The charge will be 2s. for remittances under £5. Money Orders to the amount of £10 are now issued at all the money order offices throughout the kingdom. The charge for a £10 order is 1s.

MDLE FILIPPI is at present in Madrid. She has appeared as Rosina ("Il Barbiere") and in the "Trovatore" with distinguished applause.

THE WEATHER at NICK has been quite spring-like. Everything is green, and thousands of orange trees are covered with fruit; the roses, violets de Parme, and other flowers, are in full bloom; while green peas are growing in all the gardens.

THE TURIN JOURNALS announce the arrival in that city of M. Giovanni Miani, known as a traveller in the East, who lately penetrated beyond the fifth cataract of the Nile, near the source of that river, and visited places and tribes previously unexplored.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ANTRIM, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday week.

MR. VINCENT WALLACE has given the last touch to another English opera assigned to the Pyne-Harrison firm and to be brought out under their management when considered necessary.

IN THE NEW MUSEUM IN Kew Gardens there is a specimen of cotton, 600 yards, weighing only a pound (spun so fine); they measure more than 500,000 yards, or 250 miles in length. Muslins are made in India of so fine and delicate texture as to be termed "woven air."

MGR. CHIOI, the Papal Nuncio newly accredited to the Tuileries, has left Rome for Paris.

THE EXPORT OF COTTON FROM THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY in 1858 was only 250,000 bales, and in 1860 371,000. For the year ending the 30th of September last the export had reached 916,358 bales, and prices in many instances had doubled.

THE CELEBRATED LISZY, who is wintering at Rome, has just completed an oratorio entitled "Santa Elisabetta."

SOUTH CAROLINA has honourably met its engagements to its European creditors, a remittance having just come forward, notwithstanding the blockade, for the dividend due to the 1st inst. Tennessee, however, has not met her engagements, the answer given by the London agents being "No orders to pay received."

M. FOULD has given the sum of 30,000fr., or £1200, for a stallion. This, according to the *Sport* newspaper, is the largest sum ever given in France for a horse.

THE NUMBER OF VESSELS WHICH ENTERED INWARDS AT HAVRE in 1861 was 6860, with a total tonnage of 1,252,601 tons, being 823 vessels and 231,513 tons more than in 1860. The number cleared outwards was 6811, with a tonnage of 1,208,702 tons, being 793 vessels and 182,225 tons more than in 1860.

THE AMERICAN CONSUL AT CADIZ has formally protested against the admission of the Sumter into the arsenal to repair damages.

THE amount raised for the Roman Court by the Peter's-pence collections is stated to be nearly four millions of Roman crowns.

GARIBALDI has declined to take part in the inauguration of the National Rifle Contest at Turin.

A VIOLENT SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE, accompanied with a noise resembling thunder, was felt on Thursday week throughout Saxony. No loss of lives or property is reported.

COLONEL TYNTE, M.P. for Bridgwater, was last week summoned for debt in the County Court. The Colonel made no appearance, and it was shown that he was not possessed of any means whatever, the cost of his maintenance being defrayed by his friends.

COUNT DE BARNSTORFF, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Prussia, has introduced since the 1st of the year an innovation in the mode of communicating with his agents in foreign countries, as, instead of employing the French language, as previously, he writes in German.

QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANT GEORGE WHEELER shot himself at the militia barracks, York, on Wednesday week; and Private Alfred Baradough committed a like crime at Chatham Barracks on Saturday last.

AT NOON on Saturday last Patrick McCaffery, who was lately, at the Liverpool Assizes, sentenced to be hanged for the murder of Colonel Crofton and Captain Hanham at the Fulwood Barracks, Preston, on the 11th of September last, expiated his crime in front of the Kirkdale gaol.

ALL THE FRENCH RAILWAY COMPANIES have decided on reducing the daily duty of their pointmen from thirty-two hours to eight, and at the same time on raising their wages from 2fr. 50c. to 3fr. a day. English railway directors would do well to follow this example.

IN A WEALTHY FAMILY OF VIENNA the husband made his wife a New Year's gift of a dozen pairs of gloves. Indignant at such stinginess, the lady, as soon as her husband's back was turned, flung the gloves into the fire. Explanations ensued at table, and what was the irascible lady's astonishment on learning that each pair of gloves was wrapped up in a bank-note for 100 florins.

A PUBLIC MEETING is to be held in Islington, towards the end of the current month, at which Lord Granville has consented to occupy the chair, for the purpose of inaugurating the project for establishing a Finsbury School of Art in conjunction with a museum and public picture-gallery, to be called the North London Gallery, Museum, and School of Art.

THE QUESTION OF THE RIGHT OF CITIZENSHIP has been definitively settled in Prussia. Henceforth, any person having remained abroad for ten years will be required, under pain of losing his civil and political rights, to go through the formalities of naturalisation on returning to Prussia. This question had been raised on the return home of a number of Prussian subjects who took advantage of the amnesty.

IN CONSEQUENCE of the number of vessels lost annually in the route from Singapore to China—amongst which was her Majesty's troop-ship *Transit*—the Admiralty have just dispatched the *Rifleman*, Master-Commander, A. J. Reed, to make a fresh survey and draw up new and correct charts of this route, and also of the China seas generally.

BLONDI'S MONKEY PANTOMIME AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE is to be continued for the ensuing week. It is then to be withdrawn in consequence of the canary show and other attractions.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

PARLIAMENT will soon be assembled. In little more than a fortnight after your day of publication the two Houses will meet for the first time of the session. And now what will the honourable members of the House have to talk about when they come together? It is a prevalent opinion that we shall have a very quiet session. That we shall have no reform bill is universally thought certain. At least, not from the Government—certainly no partial reform we are pretty sure to have: one from Mr. King for the assimilating the franchise of counties to that of boroughs, another, perhaps, from Mr. Baines to extend the franchise generally. But these will not take up much time, nor excite much attention, neither will they be carried. The question of church-rates will most likely be again introduced by Sir John Trelawney, and occupy two or three Wednesdays, but with what success to the abolition project remains to be seen. The opponents of this obnoxious impost have not lost much by the elections which have occurred since last Session, neither have they gained in numbers, I think. Last year it will be remembered that the bill was lost by the casting vote of the Speaker. The fate of this year's bill will therefore assuredly hang upon a thread. If I were disposed to bet, I should back its opponents. But we cannot tell, for much depends upon accident in these divisions. If the bill, however, should pass in the House of Commons by a narrow majority, the Lords will make short work with it. All compromise, I learn, is now deemed to be hopeless. Ten Moore thus sang about the cess tax in Ireland:

Alas! is all this wise device  
For the saving of souls thus gone in a trice;  
The whole put down in the simplest way,  
By the souls resolving not to pay.

And it will probably come to this in the matter of church rates. Every year we have more recalcitrant parishes to add to the list. And upon the principle of *credo quia vult* we may expect that the virus of opposition will spread much more rapidly in the future than it has in the past.

One of the subjects for debate which will be looked for with keen interest will be Mr. Gladstone's Budget. That with all these war expenses which we have incurred and continue to incur a pleasant surplus of a million or so I fear is out of the question; but our gallant Chancellor of the Exchequer spoke hopefully at Edinburgh last week. And, after due inquiries made, and watching the quarterly returns, I am disposed to expect that there will be no great deficit; and that the prophets of evil who uttered such dismal auguries last year—Mr. Thomas Baring, Mr. Du Cane, and others—will find all their forebodings falsified—to their great joy, no doubt. Nor will Mr. Cobden and Mr. Gladstone have to confess that their French Treaty is a failure, for that has at present proved a magnificent success, and has balanced by exports to France within a third of the amount our loss of trade with the United States. Our loss of trade in America amounts to three millions; our gain in France to two millions. Canning boasted that he would bring the New World in to redress the balance of the Old. Mr. Cobden and Mr. Gladstone bring the Old to redress the balance of the New. The Chancellor of the Exchequer last Session said in his eloquent way that the financial and fiscal policy of later times had been so to push our trade into all countries, and so to distribute it over the earth, that no calamity in a particular part of the globe could materially affect us;—and here is a proof of the truth of this remark. It is not apprehended that there will be much fighting upon the Budget.

There is one knotty question on which may be expected a good deal of discussion as soon as the House meets; most likely we shall have it mooted in the debate upon the redress. I mean the question of the delay in making public that pacific despatch which Mr. Seward sent to Mr. Adams, and which the latter gentleman showed to Earl Russell on the 10th of December. At first the *Morning Post* declared that in this document there was nothing about the Trent affair; afterwards it asserted that the letter had not been shown to the Foreign Secretary. But now it is revealed that both these assertions were incorrect. Why, then, was this pacificatory despatch kept back from the public? This is the question, and upon this question we may expect a good deal of fierce talk. If this had been done in France a stockjobbing trick would have been suspected, but neither Lord Palmerston nor Earl Russell is suspected of working the funds for his advantage. As the matter stands, it is difficult to see a valid reason why the good news should have been kept secret; but we must wait: a word or two from our great magician at the head of the Government may dispel all this mist in a moment.

The public has certainly been gulled by the statements in the daily and weekly papers on the subject of the Government despatches. With the exception of the *Morning Star* and a few provincial papers, all hinted or asserted that Earl Russell's despatch to Lord Lyons was of the most presumptuous and bellicose character. "Give up these men, or in three days I withdraw, and war will be declared." Such, it was hinted, or confidently asserted, was the language which Lord Lyons was instructed to employ to the American Government. It will be remembered, however, that in your paper of January 4 I asserted that the despatch of Earl Russell was "not of this presumptuous character," but, on the contrary, that it was "a calm, argumentative document," and it is now seen that this information was correct. But let it not be supposed that I pretend to private information. It was just a logical deduction from the probabilities of the case and the knowledge of Earl Russell's character; nothing more. Rely upon it that all pretensions to secret information are humbug. Cabinet Ministers are sworn to secrecy, and, until permission be given to remove the seal, you might as well try to discover the secrets of the other world as to ascertain what goes on at Cabinet meetings. Newspaper touters get into conversation with Lords of the Treasury, secretaries, chief clerks, &c., and think that by so doing they can get at Cabinet secrets; but the fact is, that these officials know no more of Cabinet mysteries than the crossing-sweeper opposite their office; nor do I believe that the Government has any organ now through which it specially reveals its mind. The *Post* is said to be Lord Palmerston's organ, and to a certain extent it may be so; but you may rely upon it that the *Post* has no easier access to Cabinet doings than all the world has. In the old Tory days things were managed differently, and even in times subsequent; but of late the curtain round the Cabinet has been drawn very close indeed, and, when any paper professes to have special intelligence of what transpires within the Cabinet, the public would do well not to place the smallest reliance upon it.

There is another subject which I understand will be pressed upon the attention of Government and Parliament in the coming Session—to wit, the propriety of recognising as speedily as possible the independence of the Confederate States. But on this question the Government will adopt the course which has been its policy for many years past—namely, to wait till the independence shall have been fully achieved. It is also rumoured that the Government will be urged by some madheaded partisans of the South to attempt to break up the blockade, and it is asserted that the French Emperor is quite willing to form an alliance with England for such a purpose; and, further, that Lord Palmerston looks with favour upon the project. But all this is mere rumour, and not worthy of a moment's attention or concern. I do not mean to say that the subject will not be introduced to the House or that the policy will not find advocates; for there is no ganging the policy of some professed politicians; but that it will be approved of by the Government, or that the Emperor is ready to carry it out, is not conceivable.

The "New Education Minute" will of course lead to no end of talk in Parliament. Sir John Pakington, I have no doubt, is armed at all points for the fray, and "full to the bung" and almost ready burst upon this vexed question. "Old Henley," too, will have a

word to say, and many words; and so will that tireome, long-winded, prosy speechmaker, Mr. Adderly. "Clever fellow that!" said a witty member once when Adderly had been prosing away for an hour or more. "How?" asked a friend by his side. "Why, there is not a man in the world who can talk so long and say so little, and is not that a wonderful talent?" We may also expect a deliverance from Lord Stanley upon this topic which we would be glad to hear, for few men are so enlightened upon the subject of education as his Lordship. Mr. Robert Lowe will of course talk blue-book for an hour or two, for he is Vice-President of the Education Board, and it will be his duty to do so. His speeches one would hardly wish to hear, for though he is exceedingly clever, his speeches are so monotonous, and colourless, and tedious that listening to him is anything but pleasant. For my part, I should rather read than hear his lucubrations.

And many more subjects no doubt will turn up. Mr. Hennessy clearly means to have a go in at Sir Robert Peel; and let up hope that the worthy Irish Secretary is duly crammed for the occasion, for Mr. Hennessy is rather an awkward assailant—he sticks to his foe as a barnacle sticks to the bottom of a ship. But Cardwell will be there; and if the new Secretary cannot foil his opponent he must call in the aid of the old. And so we shall not want for topics of talk. The Estimates are to be produced unusually early this year.

"And so they're going to make Mr. Bulwig a baronet," says James Yellowplush, and proceeds to comment on the creation with all that keen personality which the author of "Yellowplush" so loved in his youth and so severely punished in his riper years. The novelist whom James's searching sarcasm designated Bulwig has long enjoyed his honours, and now behold, rumour points to another aspirant in the person of Mr. Charles Wentworth Dilke one of the joint secretaries to the exhibition of '51, and a gentleman much noticed by the late Prince Consort. Her Majesty, not in words merely but by deeds, is showing her determination to take under her special charge any object in which her lamented husband took an interest, and Mr. Dilke thus falls in for an honour which, it is said, was refused to Robert Stephenson, the engineer, and which has been unavailingly sought by many, very many, distinguished men. But, if Mr. Dilke is to be created a baronet, what honours will the other adherents of his late Royal Highness expect to be in store for them? There is the great Mr. Cole, for instance, who is by no means in the habit of hiding the gas extracted from him under a bushel. If Mr. Dilke's baronetcy is granted, the best thing will be to restore the regal dignity of which the poet has sung so sweetly—to the Cole family, and let Henry C. B. reassume the crown and sceptre, brew fresh punch, demand new pipes and bowls, and summon Messrs. Ernst, Sivori, and Viotti Collins to take the places of the three original fiddlers. Seriously, though, it must be remembered that Mr. Dilke's services in connection with the Exhibition were most valuable, and that he declined a very large sum (no less than £5000) which was offered him as a pecuniary reward.

In caricaturing ourselves we represent John Bull as a plethoric, well-to-do, top-booted farmer, the picture of health and good living. Chain, and the caricaturists of France, depict an Englishman as a thin, cadaverous, half-starved looking fellow, with high cheekbones, and a very stiff cravat. For many years I have considered who sat for these absurd charges, where the melancholy English Jaques was to be found who could so impress the French draughtsmen, but a *carte de visite* casually glanced at in a shop window, and the perusal of a recent letter in the *Times*, have cleared up any doubts, and convinced me that the great original must be Lord Cowley. The photograph showed the personal characteristics, and the letter in the *Times* perfectly explained the half-starved thinness which a Parisian naturally ascribes to any inhabitant of the British Embassy. No dinners, no receptions, are held at that dreary abode; no pleasant intercourse, no balls for attachés of the Walsingham Hely class, no juvenile parties for little diplomatists. All is grim and silent and close-fisted, and the £10,000 a year which England allows this saturnine representative of her hospitality is put by for future Cowleys yet unborn.

All lovers of "In Memoriam" will be glad to hear that Mr. Moxon has just published a cheap and admirably-compiled index or concordance to Mr. Tennyson's masterpiece.

**LONDON MEMORIAL TO THE PRINCE CONSORT.**—A large and influential meeting was held on Tuesday at the Mansion House—the Lord Mayor in the chair—to consider the best means of raising a memorial to his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort. The meeting was addressed by the Bishop of London, Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Baron Rothschild, the Earl of Coventry, and others, and resolutions to carry out the objects of the meeting were unanimously adopted. One of the resolutions was to the effect that the memorial should be of a monumental character, subject to the approbation of the Queen. Vigorous steps were also resolved on to obtain subscriptions, and on this subject a letter was read from Mr. Foster, the secretary to the Society of Arts, conveying a resolution of that society to devote 1000 guineas out of their funds to the object, as well as to take other means more within their own reach as a society to perpetuate his memory.

**FATHER DALY.**—A memorial to the Pope on behalf of Father Daly, signed by 10,000 of the people of Galway and neighbourhood, was signed, with the approval of many of the clergy, at all the chapels of Galway on Sunday. Father Daly's position in Galway is most remarkable. He is chairman of the Town Corporation, chairman of the Gas Company, president of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (which he founded), president of the Mechanics' Institute, president of the Commercial Society, managing owner and director of the Lough Corrib Steam Company. He has a plurality of parishes, with the peculiarity that one of them was granted him for life by the Court of Rome direct, and he is, we believe, the only instance of a Vicar in the Roman Catholic Church who had been elected to that office by the people. The father is about to proceed to Rome to lay an appeal from the decision of the Bishop before his Holiness, and his friends confidently anticipate that the reverend body will be restored to the exercise of his clerical functions.

**ROME AND PORTUGAL.**—A despatch from Turin announces the rupture of diplomatic relations between the Courts of Rome and Portugal. Whilst, it says, in all the other countries of Europe the death of King Dom Pedro and his brothers has excited the deepest and most sincere regret, and all the Governments have been eager to express their sympathy to the new Portuguese Sovereign, the Pontiff of Rome alone, "the common father of all the faithful," "the consoler of all the afflicted," has not had a word of consolation to offer. The Portuguese Government has shown itself hurt at the silence, and has recalled the Minister who represented it at the Court of Rome.

**THE BELGIAN MUSKETS.**—A good story is told of one of our Illinois colonists who was least praising the arm. Says he, "In platoon-drill with the Belgian musket I can tell you I cannot with any other arm, and that is, how many paces have been fired." "How can you tell that?" "Oh, I count the men on the ground; it never deceives me. It is fire and fall back." One of these Belgian muskets will kick like a mule, and burst with the greatest facility. Several soldiers in our Illinois regiments have been killed in this way. The bayonet, too, is a novelty—a soft iron affair, apparently designed to cool around the enemy as it is introduced, thus taking him prisoner.—*Chicago Tribune*.

**KINGSDAY LIFE-BOAT.**—The National Life-boat Institution sent, on Wednesday last (the 15th instant), one of its single-banked life-boats, together with a transporting-carriage, to Kingsgate, near Margate. The boat is twenty-eight feet long, six feet wide, and rows six oars. Her self-righting qualities were fully and satisfactorily tested on Tuesday morning, in the recent's Canal Dock, Limehouse. The boat possesses the properties of self-righting, self-charge of water, and other qualities belonging to the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution.

**THE NEW TRIP TO SCARBOROUGH.**—Mr. Joseph Parkinson, whose new "Trip to Scarborough" we have before casually alluded to, has recently delivered his graphic and humorous entertainment at the House of Commons, Kennington, and at Chertsey, with complete success. Mr. Parkinson colours up a real visit to a veritable watering-place, with a host of fictitious incidents and imaginary characters; and, as his anecdotes are told easily and naturally, and as the people he is supposed to have met are only slightly-exaggerated types of assiduous humanity, they are everywhere welcomed as portraits by appreciative audiences. Mr. Parkinson's talk is humorous in the highest sense of the word, and his rare gifts of manner and of memory enable him to firmly engage the attention and the sympathies of his listeners, and to keep them in uninterrupted goodhumour and laughter, without the aid of either song, music, or scenery.

## MR. GLADSTONE ON THE AMERICAN QUESTION AND FREE TRADE.

MR. GLADSTONE laid the foundation-stone of a new church for the Episcopal congregation of St. James, Leith, on Saturday. After the ceremony, Mr. Gladstone met a crowded audience in the Assembly-rooms, Leith, where he was presented with a municipal address. A large portion of the right hon. gentleman's speech in reply referred to American affairs. He could not be surprised, he said, at the feeling of irritation against England which had grown up in the United States:—

We saw there a military undertaking of tremendous difficulty, and a military undertaking which, if it was to be successful, would only be the preface and introduction to political difficulties far greater than even the military difficulties of the war itself. Now, I am afraid that when this opinion came to be prevalent in England, that this war was a war to be lamented, and to be deprecated, and likely to result in great misery, great effusion of human blood, enormous waste of treasure, permanent estrangement and bitterness of feeling—I am afraid that the formation of that opinion, though conscientiously formed, gave deep offence to the people, or to many persons, at least, in the United States.

Then he spoke of the Trent outrage, and the restoration of a good understanding between the two Governments which had just taken place:—

Now, what I earnestly hope is, that we shall take in good part the concession that America has made. Do not let us be tempted to criticise in an unfriendly spirit any portion of their proceedings; perhaps if any individual might be tempted to criticise their proceedings it is the Chancellor of the Exchequer. I hear some people say, "Why did they not give up Messrs. Mason and Slidell at once, without waiting for our demand?" Well, now, I think I am the person who has the best right to put that question, because, undoubtedly, if they had given up Messrs. Mason and Slidell at once, without waiting for our demand, it would have saved the various departments of the State a great deal of trouble, and would have enabled me to present at the close of the financial year a balance-sheet more entirely satisfactory than I can possibly do, although I do not respond with respect to it. But I hope that question will not be put. Let us look, ladies and gentlemen, upon the bright side of that which the Americans have done, and surely a bright side it has. Let us look to the fact that they are of necessity a people subject to quick and violent action of opinion, and liable to great public excitement—intensely agitated on the subject of the war in which they were engaged, until aroused to a high pitch of expectation by hearing that one of their vessels of war had laid hold on the Commissioners of the Southern States, whom they regarded simply as rebels. Let us look to the fact that in the midst of that exultation, and in a country where the principles of popular government and democracy are carried to extremes—that even, however, in this struggle of life and death, as they think it to be—that even, while bullions were taking place all over the country of joy and exultation at this capture—that even there this popular and democratic Government has, under the demand of a foreign Power, written these words, for they are closing words in the despatch of Mr. Seward—"The four Commissioners will be cheerfully liberated." Let us take these words, I say, without minute criticism upon anything that may have passed at former times, and may have been open to differences of view. Let us accept them with thankfulness to the Almighty for having removed any apparent cause of deadly collision, in which the hearts of the people of this country were united as the heart of one man to vindicate, under all circumstances and to all extremities, the honour of the British flag, and to discharge the duty of protection to those who had placed themselves under its shelter.

He spoke of the happy results of our free trade policy and the benefits which had accrued to our commerce from the treaty with France:—

The truth is, that the union of England and France in the bonds of special unity and harmony is, of all other things that can be named, the greatest benefit both to these countries themselves and to the other nations of the world. It is a benefit which you cannot always enjoy, because it is impossible that the views and the policy of governments and of nations should always coincide; but it is a benefit in respect to which I presume to say that when we can have it we should have it, for there is none other comparable to it in magnitude. There is no other which so completely offends us, humanly speaking, a guarantee for the general peace and happiness of the world. Mr. Provost and gentlemen, it is quite true that the policy of governments, as opposed to nations, may sometimes interfere to mar that harmony. Therefore I say it is well that we should not look simply to the policy of governments, but we should endeavour to unite the two nations in harmonious feelings. When was there any means or instrument so powerful and so valuable for that purpose as our command as the means and instrument employed in the treaty of commerce with France, which increases and multiplies unfold the quiet, peaceful, unnoticed, habitual, daily principles of kindly and beneficial intercourse between the two countries?

## ELECTION INTELLIGENCE

**OXFORDSHIRE.**—The contest in this county still goes on with unabated vigour. A report was circulated a few days ago that Sir Henry Dashwood had retired, but this was unfounded; and at a meeting of Sir Henry's friends at Oxford on Monday it was resolved to prosecute the struggle to the last, and a subscription was opened to defray the expenses of the contest, so that Sir Henry Dashwood might be returned free of expense. £600 was subscribed in the room. Both candidates have addressed the electors in various parts of the county, and the friends of each declare themselves sanguine of the return of their favourite.

**PRESTON.**—Mr. CROSS, M.P. for the borough of Preston, has issued an address, in which he states he will not again offer himself as a candidate in case of a dissolution, which he thinks "is not unlikely to take place." This announcement, besides setting the Liberals on the move, has stirred the Conservatives to action. Only one gentleman has been mentioned hitherto in Conservative circles—viz., Mr. Robert T. Parker, the guild mayor of the borough. This gentleman has already represented Preston in the Legislature, and is named by the Conservatives as eminently fit for the honour of again being returned, not only on account of his extended knowledge of matters pertaining to the office to which it is proposed by his rivals to raise him, but also and chiefly because of his intimate acquaintance with the local circumstances and necessities of the town of Preston.

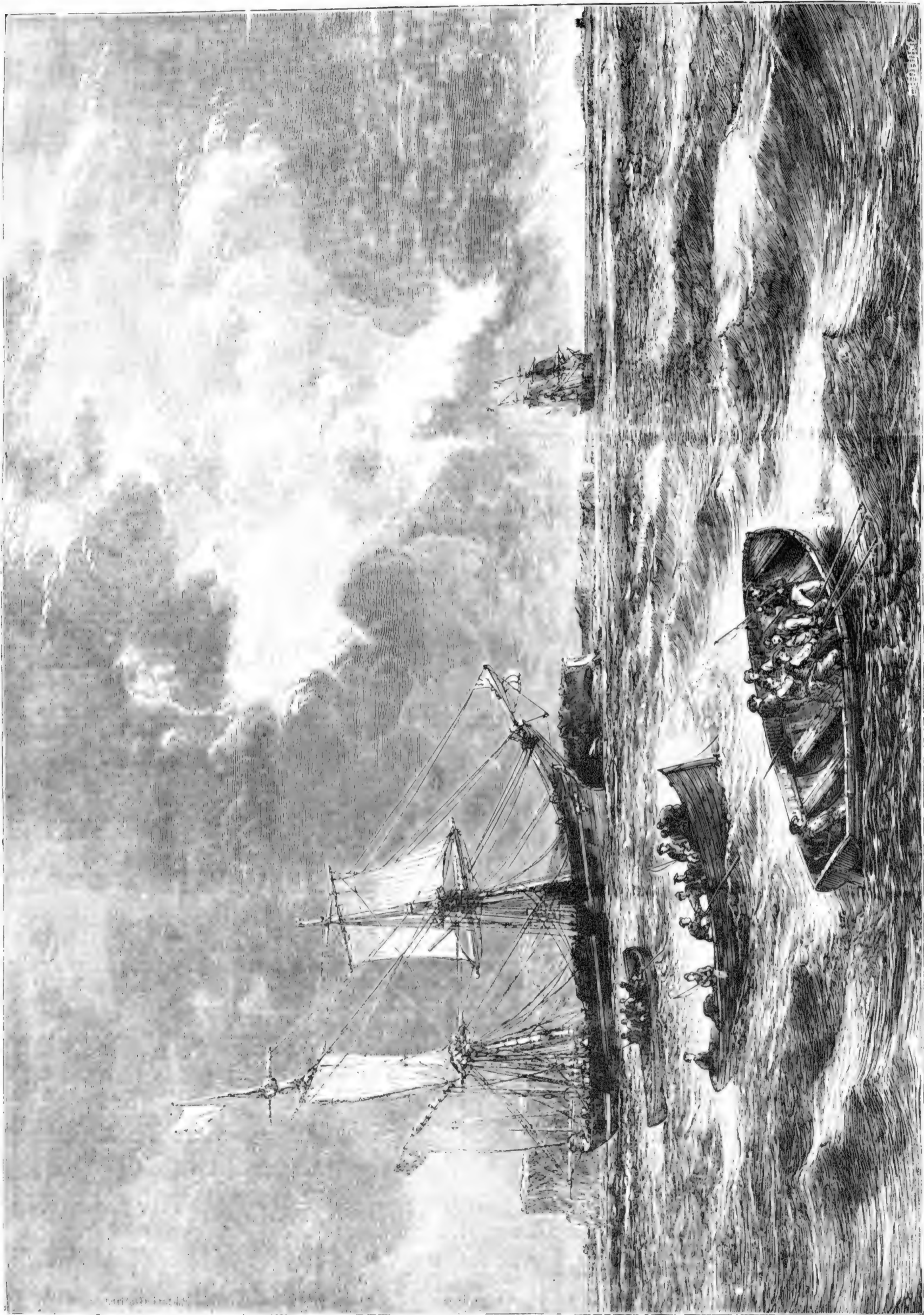
**LINCOLN.**—A report that Mr. Henage would retire from the representation of Lincoln, and offer himself to the electors of Grimsby, vacant by the succession of Lord Worsley to the House of Lords, has brought addresses to the Lincoln electors from Mr. J. Hinde Palmer and Mr. Bramley-Moore.

**COLERNAINE.**—Mr. LAYTON, the Solicitor-General, having withdrawn without addressing the electors, Sir Henry Bruce will be returned without opposition.

**THE GAME LAWS.**—The county magistrates are getting up a crusade in favour of a more stringent game law. The Quarter Sessions of Chester, Warwick, Worcester, and, lastly, Leicester, have agreed to a petition to Parliament the effect of granting which would be to employ the county police in searching suspected poachers for game on their return from their expeditions, and to make the possession of such game sufficient evidence of the crime without catching them in the act. The plea of the county magistrates is humanity, not the game. So much bloodshed arises in the struggles with the poachers, they say, that measures should be taken which would throw the duty of apprehending them on a larger force and in a more convenient place and time. In Warwickshire of only four out of ten out of about thirty magistrates, in Leicestershire a minority of ten out of the same number, resisted the petition. It would, in fact, amount to pressing the county police into the service of the landed gentry as under-game-keepers. We are sure that Parliament will not consent to aggravate the severity of laws which even now fall but ill. Whenever an offence against the subject, mistaken though that offence is. Whenever an offence against the law has a popular feeling in its favour, or at least in extension of it, it is the true policy to require the most indisputable evidence of its commission. We do not fear any return to the game-law legislation of George III. The result would certainly be a great intensification of the ardour of poachers.

**JOHN BULL AND COTTON.**—The Paris *Charivari* publishes a caricature in which old Father Time is depicted as presenting an infant in swaddling clothes, ticketed 1862, to John Bull, represented with the traditional broad-brimmed hat, immense corporation, and top-boots. "Here, Mr. Bull," says he of the scythe, "here is the little 1862 for you!" "Oh, yes," is the reply, "he must have a good strong constitution, for I am no longer able to bring him up in cotton."

**EUROPEAN SOVEREIGNS.**—The oldest Sovereign in Europe is at present Wilhelm I., King of Wurtemberg, born in September, 1781. Two first Williams are now reigning in Germany—Wilhelm I. of Prussia, and the just named Wilhelm I. of Wurtemberg. Arranging the Sovereigns of Europe by the length of their reigns, a German Prince, Duke Bernhard of Saxe-Meiningen, who has reigned since 1803, carries the field. The Prince most recently come to his throne is King Louis I. of Portugal. As concerns Germany, four reigning families of that country have no hereditary male issue.



THE NEW FISHING GROUNDS OF THE "SUN" OF CORKA L.

## THE ROCKALL FISHERY.

"LOVERS of fish," as the frequenters of Billingsgate ordinaries are called in the advertisements specially addressed to them, may well lament over the scarcity of many of the finer sorts of their favourite boiled or fried. And yet, dating from the time when it was enacted that no apprentice should be compelled to eat salmon on more than three days in the week, and coming down to our own day, when special legal restrictions have become necessary for the preservation of any salmon at all, we fear that the "lovers of fish," in an epicurean and gastronomic sense, have been the cause of all the mischief by demanding dishes out of season, and fostering the destruction of the half-grown shoal.

The amazing fecundity of fish has always been held to be great enough to withstand any reasonable diminution of their numbers; but the continuance of three or four species most valuable as holding a high place amongst articles of food, has been sensibly endangered by their being caught for the market at the season when they should have been allowed to propagate; and it would be wise even now to confine ourselves, for a year or two to come, to those sorts which seem to be unaffected by even the enormous demands made upon them.

While this subject was being discussed by the Legislature and the amongst the general public who were interested in it, there came the announcement of a new or, at all events, a very little-known fishery, within a comparatively short distance, where the cod may be discovered in shoals so enormous as to excite belief, except on the grounds of indisputable experience and the well-known scientific fact that the roe of this fish contains millions of eggs. Away beyond the Scottish coast, and far even from St Kilda, which is its nearest neighbour, stands a lonely reef, looking in the distance, like a whitened rick of grain, and elevated some 18 ft. above the level of the waves which break upon it. This is Rockall and the name of the lonely reef is likely to become as famous as that of the new fishing-ground which has added to the marvellous supplies already

received from the North Cape, the Doggerbank, and the places from which both cod and herrings come to the London market.

With respect to the latter fish, which with the sea mushroom and almost every small fish and succulent marine herb growing on the banks of the fishing-ground, forms the food of the cod, they arrive in such quantities that it is no uncommon thing to send them in wagon-loads to the market in Thames-street, even without the preliminary packing into baskets, their railway journey being performed in open trucks, where they lie in a solid mass of cheap and palatable

ton, Euston-square, King's cross and several intermediate places, and the City. Already the tunnel which passes along part of the York-road (to merely Maiden-lane) has been finished thus forming a junction between the Great Northern, the North Western, and the North London with the underground City line. In the Euston-road and towards Paddington at King's-cross and throughout a considerable portion of the Bagnigge-well-road, the massive brick arches have been turned and covered over.

At many points the labour has been of a difficult and often dan-

food. It may be hoped that the new fishery will help not only to sustain the supply, but, at the same time, enable our "lovers of fish" to wait patiently for the restoration of the salmon and some of his scarce and costly brethren of the deep. The "ground" at Rockall is a sandbank of about 100 miles long and 40 broad, the rock itself, which is the principal mark, being really so small an object in the expanse of sea that vessels take their bearings for St. Kilda in order to discover it.

The method of fishing at Rockall is the same as that of the smackmen in the North Sea, the smacks of the last great season having been good, stout welled ships of about fifty tons and with eight or nine hands. They fished only with hand-lines, each with a leaden sinker and two hooks, the bait consisting of offal or a piece of tusk baskin cut in the shape of a fish.

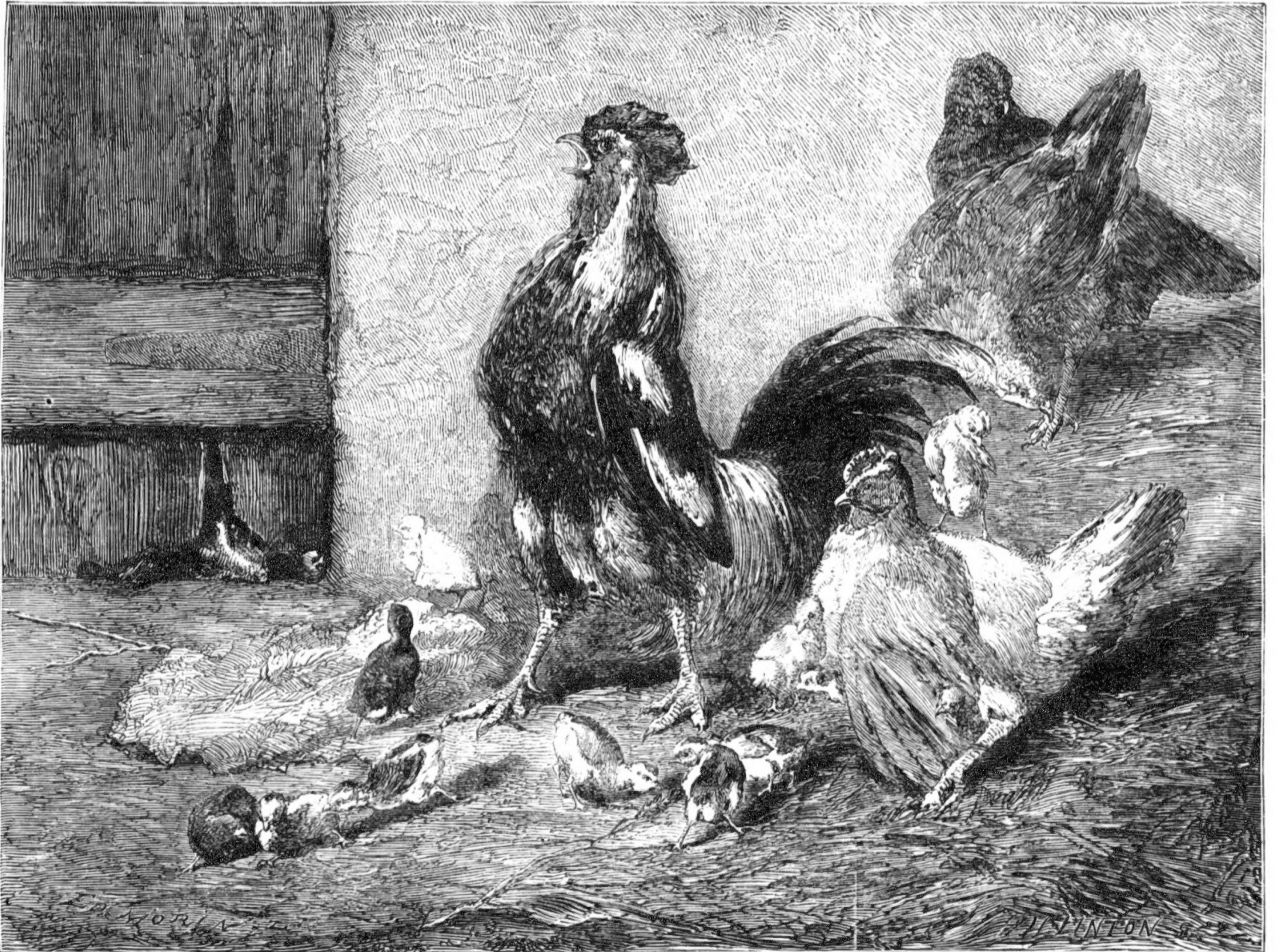
Directly the fish were caught they were gutted, split, and sold; being afterwards laid in layers filling the whole space in the ship. The merchants at We-tray purchased them in this condition by the ton or the score, and at the rate of about £10 per ton. The smacks took about four days going and returning, and in five days' fishing took about fourteen tons of cod each, or a hundred and forty pounds' worth of fish.

## THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY

THE works of this important undertaking are fast approaching towards completion, and, if no unforeseen circumstances should arise early in the coming spring there will, below several of our crowded thoroughfares, be provided the means of rapid railway communication between Padding-



THE WORKS FOR THE UNDERGROUND RAILWAY AT COPPICE-ROW, CLERKENWELL.



THE POULTRY YARD IN DANGER.—(FROM A PICTURE BY M. VERIAT.)

gerous description; and to those engaged in business or residing in the neighbourhood of the new railway, the openings made for the alteration of sewers and the other extensive cuttings through the roadways, have been the cause of both loss and much inconvenience, and at no other point has this been so much felt as in the portion of Clerkenwell through which the railway passes.

From a little to the south of the Clerkenwell Police Court to the workhouse of that parish in Coppice-row the railway takes very nearly the same direction as did the Fleet River in former days. Not so much as a century ago neither the workhouse nor the multitude of houses which now throng this district had been built; there was the old Church of St. James—a quaint building which stood on the site of the present one—some old houses near and others surrounding Clerkenwell green, and towards Smithfield, Field-lane, and Holborn, there was a mass of houses, now removed. There was also the old hostel, of no very good repute, which in a more modern style of architecture is still called by its original name of "Hockley-in-the-Hole;" there were also the Bagnidge wells (tea-gardens, famous in their days for their grottoes, enchanted caves, and dall amusements, which at the present time would not be tolerated. Two or three old houses stood near the tavern, one of which, in a ruined condition, still remains and which, according to tradition, was the occasional residence of Nell Gwynne. Towards the east was the famous spa in Spafields, which was a place of Royal and fashionable resort in George III.'s reign. There was also Sadler's Wells, and in the distance might be seen a part of "Merrie" Islington, a small village near the "Brill," Somers town, and the ivy-covered tower of old St. Pancras Church. Through the confused scene which is partly shown in the Engraving the Fleet ran pleasantly along, here and there overshadowed by willow and poplar trees. On the east side, which is now covered by Holford-square and the numerous streets close by, green slopes rose steeply towards what is now called Pe-tonville. To the west, with the exception of one or two hostels in Gray's Inn-lane and road for the accommodation and refreshment of waggoners and other travellers from the country to London, all was open fields.

Wonderful are the changes which have lately been made. Clerkenwell, Islington, St. Pancras, and Marylebone have become the seats of vast populations, and in all directions from this site rise endless rows of streets densely inhabited. In the course of these alterations, the River Fleet became so polluted that it was necessary to hide it from view, and other causes have rendered the formation of railways through the various districts of the metropolis a work which cannot now admit of delay. But in executing matters of this description in the future, the experience gained by the formation of the present line shows the need of other plans than this for carrying railways through populous districts. In many instances it is believed that the cost of lines of railway through towns would be but little, if any, more if carried over ground instead of under. The expense of diverting sewers, shoring up houses, the charges for damage—not to mention the risk which still exists in connection with the workhouse and some other buildings—the extensive excavations, and brick tunnelling, must be very great.

It is almost impossible to convey an idea, even by drawings or descriptions, of the present appearance of the Fleet Valley. In some instances it has been necessary, for the safety of the inmates of the houses on the margin of the line, to turn them out of their dwellings. Public houses and other places of business have been closed. Some houses will have to be rebuilt, and others are so cracked and rent that they will need extensive repairs. At the corner of Exmouth-street, which is shown on the right-hand side of the Engraving, the buildings seem ready to fall forward one after the other. In some instances the footpath at the basement has receded from the buildings for a considerable space; and in all directions the shopkeepers, &c., are complaining of the ruin caused to their trade by the long-continued stoppage.

While looking at this unfortunate condition of things, in a district in which, by comparison with the great roadways of the Strand and Fleet-street, the traffic is unimportant, we cannot fail to reflect upon the ill consequences of carrying through them the tunnelling for the great intercepting sewer needed for the completion of the metropolitan main drainage. So far as the Strand is concerned, this will be obviated by the measure for the Thames embankment which will be brought before Parliament during the approaching Session. A bill for embanking the river along the north side from the Houses of Parliament to Blackfriars Bridge will probably be carried. The plans involve an encroachment of land upon the Thames of about 140 feet at the Temple and much more at some other points, and this will allow of the main-drainage works being carried on without inconvenience. Considering that the south bank of the river is generally lower than that on the north, and that the completion of the quay on one side only might cause damage in the Borough, it is to be hoped that both the north and south works will be carried on simultaneously, and also that this most necessary labour may be extended as rapidly as possible to the Tower; for if the embankment stops at Blackfriars, we may have to witness in the busy eastern districts of London, in connection with the main drainage, inconveniences similar to those at present caused by the construction of the Underground Railway in the Fleet Valley.

#### THE POULTRY-YARD IN DANGER.

This picture from which our Engraving is taken is one of those which tell their own story without explanation, depending for public appreciation on the fidelity with which all its details are executed.

Here we have the whole excitement of the feathered family at the attempted irruption of the foe. The sultan cock crowing right lustily, not in defiance, but alarm at the terrible noise, treacherous eye, and velvet paw which threaten every moment to be followed by the supple body through the hole in the broken door. Not destitute of courage for himself, however, the noble bird looks with an eye of fire, his feathers proudly glittering as they are raised from tail and wing in greenish black and gold.

Meanwhile, the brood of chickens newly hatched run round and round in affright, which even the presence of the parent hen scarcely serves to allay, although she calls to them to seek safety in the covert of her wings, and the favourite has already perched securely upon her back.

What are the thoughts of the enemy as he lies there endeavouring to squeeze through the hole in the door? Is he already feeding in imagination on the tender bodies of the little chickens transported to his lair, where little foxes are waiting for just such a succulent repast? Nay, what should prevent his attacking the entire family, and laying up a store of poultry-meat for a week to come? His eye gleams as the vision of that bird now crowing so lustily—torn, killed, and mangled—flits before it; another struggle to push through—a hoarse clucking from the hen—a scattering run amongst the brood. Let us hope that before he enters the domestic retreat, the champion of the family will dart fiercely towards that reddening eye, and ply his sharp beak like a bird game to the last tip of his last feather.

The picture is just one of those which exhibit the ability with which the artist, M. Verlat, can seize upon the very habit and social economy of domestic creatures, and reproduce them in a story of animal life.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—The last mercantile advices from British Columbia indicate that a large British immigration is much desired. A letter, dated Victoria, Vancouver's Island, the 16th of November, says:—"City business is good, and the town is full of rich miners, many of them with 15,000 to 20,000 dollars, and none with less than 2000 to 5000 dollars. From all accounts Cariboo is the richest gold country ever known. Almost every one talks of going in the spring, and every one who talks thus expects to make a fortune. There will be a great run, no doubt. Every man with industry may be sure of a few thousands of dollars in the season."

#### CONCERTS.

THERE have been some noteworthy performances of music within the past few days. Last week, too late for chronicling in these pages, Mr. Leslie's Choir gave their first concert of the season at Hanover-square Rooms, which have undergone a thorough process of renovation, and would hardly be known by their oldest frequenters. The decorations are in excellent taste. A delicate green is the prevailing tint, and is relieved by bands of pale blue; the columns entablature, and devices being picked out with white and gold. Portrait medallions of celebrated composers occur at intervals on the walls; and, while regarding the faces of Beethoven, Haydn, Handel, Spohr, Weber, Rossini, and others, the English visitor may justly take pride in the reflection that the greatest works of these great men were actually heard for the first time in the orchestra of this very room. Over all this light and fresh looking ornamentation still spreads the sombre old ceiling, with its faded pictures dimmed by contrast with the pleasant hues of the columns and walls.

Mr. Henry Leslie may be congratulated on having given his name to a choir which bids far to perpetuate that name with credit and honour. If we are at issue with him on one point, it certainly has no reference to the quality of the performance to which he has accustomed us. Our objection is to the transmutation of the forms of various works to suit a large number of voices. We cannot even recognise a question whether it be judicious or not to alter madrigals, glees, part-songs, and even single-voice ballads into choruses. What would Mr. Leslie or any other musician say if Mr. Costa or Mr. Alfred Mellon were to turn a sonata of Beethoven's into a symphony, for the mere purpose of suiting a full orchestra? This sole objection is, it must be confessed, a very important one, since Mr. Leslie's choir was organised for the express performance of English glees and madrigals, and it has only been in consequence of an unlooked-for development, that the capacities of the singers have been applied to more ambitious objects. Perhaps Mr. Leslie, seeing what great advance his choir has made towards proficiency, will abandon the old ground which they have, indeed, partly ceased to occupy, and will take a bold stand on the scientific execution of such music as, under his leadership, they got through with so much credit last week in Hanover-square. Meanwhile, some good may even arise from what we cannot but regard as, on the whole, a mistaken course of practice. A certain accurate delicacy is required in glee-singing; and, though glees were never meant to be sung by a great body of voices, the attempt to render them in a refined manner will certainly prove a useful exercise to any choir, and must very materially aid the attainment of such skill as is needed for higher labours. Bach's motet, "I wrestle and pray," one of eight which he wrote for a double choir, was sung with tolerable steadiness throughout, and with remarkably fine effect in some passages. Bach's power as a contrapuntist is eminently displayed in the second movement of this work, where a chorale for soprano voices is very strikingly accompanied by a constant reiteration of the words "I wrestle and pray." Two anthems by Mendelssohn, and several part-songs by the same composer, were rendered with almost unexceptionable precision. Besides the performances of the general choir, there was an agreeable diversity of singing by Miss Annie Cox, Mrs. Dixon, Mr. A. Mathison, and Mr. Hodson, all of whom joined to good effect in Kuyvet's Glee, "Oh, my love is like the red, red rose." There was a duet for two pianofortes on themes from one of Weber's operas, played by two young lady-members of the choir, Miss M. A. Walsh and Miss Catherine Thomson. The National Anthem was sung, with the interpolation of two occasional verses, relating to the lamented death of the Prince Consort and to that threatening cloud of war which but lately hung about our shores.

On the same evening that Mr. Leslie's choir were giving their miscellaneous concert in the time-honoured room which, having now passed into the hands of Mr. Cocks, the well-known music-publisher, has been re-decorated in the way we have described, the National Choral Society was repeating its Christmas performance of "The Messiah" at Exeter Hall. The chorus, as on the former occasion, left little to be desired, unless it were some justice from a more efficient instrumental accompaniment; and the solo parts were capably sung by Miss Emily Spiller, a young soprano vocalist, who is one of the most promising pupils of the Royal Academy of Music; Miss Leffler, whose rich voice and careful method are gaining her a high position; Mr. Wilby Cooper, and Mr. Lewis Thomas. "The Dead March" in "Saul," and "The Funeral Anthem," both which works of Handel preceded the oratorio on its first performance this season by the National Choral Society, were repeated.

On Friday evening, the 10th inst., the first performance of Haydn's "Creation" was given at Exeter Hall by the Sacred Harmonic Society. The critic's task is superseded by the perfection with which, under Mr. Costa's direction, the chorus of this society and the eminent vocalists engaged to sing the solo parts acquitted themselves. Mr. Sims Reeves, having returned from the country through which he has been making a professional tour with Mme. Lind-Goldschmidt, made his first appearance in London this season, and, to the delight of his audience, proved to be in excellent voice. The lovely air, "In native worth," could not possibly have been better sung. The demand for its repetition was almost excusable, though the singer had a better justification in declining to comply with the call than his audience had in making it. The soprano music devolved on Mlle. Parepa, who sang in her most polished manner, and, by a more than wonted care and refinement, greatly enhanced the effect of her brilliant vocalization.

Mr. Howard Glover gave his "monster concert"—a term which might have been expressly invented for this annual enterprise of his—on Saturday in St. James's Hall. We abstain from speaking of this as a morning concert, though it began much earlier in the day than morning concerts usually begin. It was pretty nearly a whole-day concert; in fact, lasting from half-past one till such time in the evening when it was found impossible to complete the programme. The half-hundred vocal and instrumental pieces were, therefore, abridged by half-a-dozen which stood at the end of the list. Of course everybody played and sang, and several nobodies gave promise of each being somebody some day. We may specially mention the fact Mr. Glover succeeded in retaining the services of the sisters Marchisio before their flight into the country. Mr. Sims Reeves also, was a prominent attraction. Some temporary confusion was caused early in the performances by an alarm of fire, but the fears of the company were calmed before any serious inconvenience occurred. This is the more fortunate, since the room was, as a matter of course, crowded.

The Monday Popular Concerts, which have been suspended for the Christmas week, are now resumed. Last Monday St. James's Hall accommodated another large audience, as if to show that the demand for good music is always up to the supply. The stalls on this occasion were completely filled, and as for the other parts of the hall we doubt if standing-room was to be spared. The programme included Spohr's quartet in E minor, for two violins, viola, and violoncello, the performers of which were Messrs. Sainton, Ries, H. Webb and Piatti; Beethoven's sonata in E flat, for pianoforte, played by Mr. Charles Hallé; the same composer's sonata in F major, for pianoforte and violin, the executants being Mr. Charles Hallé and M. Sainton; and the trio in G major, by Haydn, for pianoforte, violin, and violoncello, exquisitely rendered by the two artists just named and Signor Piatti. There were, besides, four vocal pieces, divided between Miss Banks and Mme. Sainton-Dolby.

THE COST OF THE AMERICAN DIFFICULTY.—Several of our contemporaries have stated that the expense of our preparations for a possible war with America have cost to us or five millions sterling. We believe it will be found that the amount is not likely to exceed two millions.—Morning Post.

#### OBITUARY.

REAR-ADMIRAL EDWARD AUGUSTUS FRANKLAND.—The above-named Admiral died a few days ago at his residence, at Florence, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. The deceased officer was second son of the late Rev. R. Frankland, of Somerset, by a sister of Admiral Colville. He entered the Navy in May, 1807, and, after serving in the Mediterranean and in the Adriatic, was promoted to Lieutenant on the 16th of March, 1814; from April, 1816, until promoted to Commander, on the 19th of May, 1820, he discharged the duties of private secretary to Admiral Boscawen, on the South American station; and from February, 1830, until February, 1832, commanded the Despatch, 18, on the Irish station. He attained post rank on the 28th of March, 1835, and became Rear-Admiral (retired) on the 14th of February, 1857.

GENERAL JOHN HOGGAN, C.B.—The above-named officer, whose death occurred at Mu-soorie, Bengal, on the 13th of November, was Colonel of the 45th Bengal Native Infantry, and had seen upwards of fifty-three years' service. He did good service during the Nepal, Cabul, and Sikh campaigns, and the brigade he commanded, under Sir Colin Campbell, at the Battle of Chillianwallah, contributed in no small degree in relieving the fortunes of the day.

SIR CHAPMAN MARSHALL.—Sir Chapman Marshall, whose death took place on Thursday week, at his residence, Pembroke-crescent, was the only son of the late Mr. Anthony Marshall, of Peterborough, and was born in 1786. In 1831, while serving the office of sheriff of London, he received the honour of knighthood; in the following year he was elected Alderman of the ward of Bridge Within, and served the office of Lord Mayor during the year 1839-40.

MR. BLAMIRE, LATE M.P.—Mr. W. Blamire, for some years a representative in the House of Commons of the eastern division of Cumberland, in conjunction with the late Right Hon. Sir James Graham, died on Sunday, at Thakwood, near Carlisle. For several years prior to the passing of the Tithe Commutation Act he sat for his native county, but relinquished his seat in Parliament on being appointed head commissioner of the Tithe Commission. He continued to apply his energetic and untiring abilities in carrying out the excellent provisions of that Act of Parliament until the amalgamation of the commission with the Commons Inclosure Commission. Mr. Blamire did not retire from his labours until advancing years compelled him to do so in the summer of 1860. He was a large landowner in his native county.

DR. BRIDGMAN.—Intelligence has been received of the death of Dr. Bridgman, the oldest missionary in China. He left America in 1823, and landed in China in 1830, when Dr. Morrison was the only Protestant missionary in that vast empire. He died on the 2nd of November, at the age of sixty.

LIFE-BOAT EXPENSES.—The Royal National Life-boat Institution makes a powerful appeal with the opening of the new year to the sympathies of a generous public in aid of the funds indispensably necessary to continue its important operations in the cause of suffering humanity, as the following shows:—During the past two years, 1860-61, the National Life-boat Institution has incurred expenses amounting to £22,650 on various life-boat establishments on the coasts of England, Scotland, and Ireland. In the same period the life-boats of the institution have been instrumental in rescuing 500 persons from different shipwrecks on the coasts of the United Kingdom. For these and other life-boat services the institution has voted £1893 as rewards to the crews of the life-boats. It has also granted rewards amounting to £315 10s. for saving 373 shipwrecked persons by shore-boats and other means, making a total of 871 persons saved from a watery grave during the last two years. The number of lives saved by the life-boats of the society and other means since its formation is 12,293; for which services 82 gold medals, 704 silver medals, and £15,520 in cash, have been paid in rewards. The institution has also expended £57,200 on life-boats, life-boat transporting-carriages, and boat-houses. The public cannot but sympathize with the vigorous efforts now being made by this institution to save the lives of shipwrecked crews. Their help was never more needed than at the present time, when, through the extraordinary exertions the society has made within the past few years, it has now 121 life-boats under its management, for the maintenance of which in a state of thorough efficiency a large permanent annual income is absolutely needed if its humane mission is to be permanently maintained. We may add that contributions are received for this important and truly National Life-boat Institution by all the bankers in the United Kingdom, and by the secretary, Richard Lewis, Esq., at the Institution, 14, John-street, Adelphi, London.

THE RAFFAELLE COLLECTION OF THE PRINCE CONSORT.—Among the choice collections which the Prince Consort has left behind is one of singular interest. Like every one in whom taste is sensitive from nature and acute from training, he was a great admirer of Raffaele, and on more than one occasion some small portions of his Raffaele treasures have been publicly exhibited. It is not, perhaps, generally known that he had been an ardent collector for many years of everything that illustrates the history of Raffaele's works. Agents were employed in every part of Europe; printed lists of desiderata were occasionally sent to them, and every article that could be obtained for love or money was secured. The collection, as it now stands, consists of the best engravings after Raffaele's pictures and drawings, with photographs of the pictures, whenever these could be obtained, and photographs and fac-similes of the designs and studies for them, which remain in the various Continental galleries—the examples so arranged as to show the growth of each subject in the artist's mind, from the first sketch to the perfect development of his idea on canvas. All the known Raffaele drawings are included; also the doubtful, under proper description. Wherever a more recent painter has drawn his materials from the great master, a copy of the work is placed beside the original, so as to show at a glance the full extent of his obligation. The architectural designs are also included. No such illustrations and indications of Raffaele can be seen elsewhere in the world. When completed, it was the Royal Highness's intention to place this noble collection among the Art-Treasures of the Print-room at Windsor Castle, where it would have been easily accessible. We hope the design may still be carried out. No one in future can be considered in a position to write about Raffaele's works who has not had the advantage of studying the Prince's collection.

THE FRASCOS AT WESTMINSTER PALACE.—Mr. Macclise's large mural picture of the "Meeting of Wellington and Blücher on the Field of Waterloo," upon which he has been almost exclusively engaged for the last two years, is now completed, and fixed in the place for which it was designed in the House of Lords. It is a noble work. The two heroes constitute the centre of a large and numerous group of figures. They are on horseback, and grasp each other's hands. The attitudes of both are finely expressed. Behind each the space is crowded with military forms and with the evidences of the fierceness of the yet unfinished fight. There is young Howard—the gallant Howard immortalized by Byron in "Cenci Harold"—being borne off to a soldier's grave, and there lies the Marquis of Anglesey, who lost his leg by almost the last cannon-shot that was fired, when our troops were well advanced to the front. There is another person especially celebrated—a wounded Highland piper, who sat on the ground and blew his pipes all he dared from loss of blood. Near the Duke are Lord Edward Somerset, who commanded the heavy cavalry brigade, and Sir Hussey Vivian, the leader of one of the Hussar brigades, with Lord Sandys and the surviving officers of the Duke's staff. Behind these are some of the 2nd Life Guards, of whom so few were left that when the remnant was mustered towards the close of the battle, and an officer rode up asking where the regiment was, Colonel Lygon replied with a sorrowful heart, pointing to the few remaining files, "These are all." Blücher is painted in a torse-casque, which is perfectly correct—the old soldier was still suffering from the fall he had at Wavre. Behind him are Bulow, Giesseman, Ziethen, and other distinguished officers, and his staff; and again behind these is the Prussian band that played "God Save the King," which, on the other side, was received with a British cheer. The whole spirit of the stirring scene is wonderfully expressed by the great painter.

DISCOVERY OF ANOTHER GOLDFIELD.—A new goldfield, which promises to be of considerable importance, has recently been opened up in New South Wales. It is situated very nearly due west from Sydney and at a short distance from the banks of the Lachlan. There are no signs of gold scattered about the surface, although the Rev. W. Clarke had years ago pointed out the district as one which, on geological grounds, he thought was likely to prove auriferous. The miners have to sink from 100 to 120 feet before they come to a gold-bearing stratum, and, as these shafts have to be belaboured throughout, the cost to the usual party of four men is from £30 to £50. The gold, therefore, is unavailable to those who cannot by cubing together command resources to that amount. But the knowledge of that fact has in no way prevented a great and sudden rush to the locality. The very large quantities of gold which have been taken out of some of the holes have powerfully affected the imaginations of the excitable class of gold-diggers, and the more so as they contrast strongly with the more scanty returns which have been recently obtainable from the other goldfields in the colony. The depth of the "wash dirt" varies from one to three feet, and the breadth of the "lead" within which gold has been found is about 200 yards. The length of this auriferous vein is at present quite undetermined. Its direction, so far as at present explored, is north and south. The country is very monotonous on the surface, and the diggers will be delighted to find a equally monotonous down below. Shafts are being sunk in all directions, many of which, of course, will be failures; but the successful ones will determine the direction of the lead. Some five or six thousand persons are already collected on the spot.



London: Printed and Published at the Office, 3, Catherine-street, in the Parish of St Mary-le-Strand in the County of Middlesex, by THOMAS FOX 3, Catherine-street, Strand, aforesaid.—SATURDAY JANUARY 12 1862.